Regional Organizations and the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms (PoA)

Eric G. Berman and Kerry Maze
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The Small Arms Survey

The Small Arms Survey is an independent research project located at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. Established in 1999, the project is supported by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and current contributions from the Governments of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The Survey is grateful for past support received from the Governments of France, New Zealand, and Spain. The Survey also wishes to acknowledge the financial assistance it has received over the years from different United Nations agencies, programmes, and institutes.

The objectives of the Small Arms Survey are: to be the principal source of public information on all aspects of small arms and armed violence; to serve as a resource centre for governments, policy-makers, researchers, and activists; to monitor national and international initiatives (governmental and non-governmental) on small arms; to support efforts to address the effects of small arms proliferation and misuse; and to act as a clearinghouse for the sharing of information and the dissemination of best practices. The Survey also sponsors field research and information-gathering efforts, especially in affected states and regions. The project has an international staff with expertise in security studies, political science, law, economics, development studies, sociology, and criminology, and collaborates with a network of researchers, partner institutions, non-governmental organizations, and governments in more than 50 countries.

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Preface

The profiles found in this Handbook are based on the results of extensive desk research, interviews, and consultations with officials of the regional organizations, as well as correspondence with donors and practitioners familiar with the actors and activities featured. The Small Arms Survey research team made great efforts to contact all the profiled regional organizations for their input and endorsement.

Many organizations engaged energetically in the finalization of the profiles and the study is stronger as a result of their inputs. Some organizations chose not to participate. Additional efforts were made to engage them and offer them a chance to comment on drafts.

Occasionally, judgement calls had to be made concerning differences of opinion or because of space constraints. In all cases, the profiles do not serve as official positions or documents for any of the respective regional organizations, but represent the efforts of the volume’s two authors. The format of the profiles follows the Small Arms Survey’s editorial style.

Accordingly, the names of countries and borders used in maps may not correspond fully to a regional organization’s internal agreements and guidelines. Some countries may also disagree with geographic designations. Eyebrows will no doubt be raised when noting our placement of organizations with multi-regional memberships within a single geographic region (done to make Annexe 3 a more useful reference tool). We recognize the sensitivities inherent in such matters and appreciate the reader’s understanding in this regard.

Importantly, this study should not be taken as a formal evaluation of any specific regional organization. The attribution of icons corresponding to PoA-relevant activities is subjective. Having more or fewer icons does not suggest an organization is more or less important. Moreover, ‘awarding’ an icon is not linked to effectiveness. Rather, the icons are meant to be helpful guides and to stimulate discussion and debate.

Please also consult the Survey’s web site for an electronic version of this study, which will include hyperlinks to many of the documents highlighted in the text. The Survey will routinely update the regional organizations’ points of contact on our website. And we may introduce profiles of additional regional organizations as appropriate.

— Eric G. Berman
Managing Director, Small Arms Survey
Geneva, Switzerland
July 2012
Foreword

In producing the present *Handbook* of regional organizations active in the small arms and light weapons sector, the Small Arms Survey has successfully closed an important gap. To date, no compilation of regional activities regarding small arms and light weapons control has been undertaken in such a comprehensive and succinct manner. Thanks to this study, a whole range of initiatives and institutions is now available at a glance. Germany is very pleased to have been able to contribute to this outcome by funding this publication.

Regional organizations play an important and undoubtedly increasing role in the control of small arms. An obvious reason for this is the regional nature of the issue: illicit small arms are often related to regional conflicts or smuggled regionally. Transborder cooperation, information sharing, and regionally harmonized marking and tracing are essential elements of an effective small arms control mechanism. Another reason is the regional knowledge necessary to combat illicit small arms and light weapons: political, legal, and historical contexts, as well as the nature of the challenge, almost always display strong and unique regional aspects. Because of this, special emphasis was placed on regional organizations in the process to prepare the Second Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action to combat illicit small arms and light weapons trade, and their impact will no doubt prove crucial in the Review Conference itself. Against this backdrop, the publication of this *Handbook* is very timely.

Germany has a long tradition of cooperating with regional organizations in the security sector. One of its largest small arms and light weapons projects in the last few years has been its support of the East African Community, which has included establishing a marking and tracing mechanism, and strengthening political and security cooperation in the region. We have collaborated with the League of Arab States, the Andean Community, and the Central American Integration System. We are looking forward to expanding our cooperation with regional entities, in particular taking into account the new challenges related to small arms like the flow of illicit weapons in the aftermath of the 2011 conflict in Libya.

The present *Handbook* provides a wealth of information on regional activities—including some surprising and little-known facts. The study introduces a number of regional organizations that are not counted among the usual suspects in the small arms sector. And it draws some useful connections among the anti-narcotic, anti-terrorism, and anti-transnational-crime communities. I have found this publication very useful and am convinced that it will be of great help to other governments, international and regional organizations, and all stakeholders in the security field. It deserves a wide readership, and I look forward to supporting future Small Arms Survey efforts to explore the function that the actors listed in it perform in countering the illicit use of and trade in small arms and light weapons.

— Ambassador Rolf Nikel
German Federal Government Commissioner for Disarmament and Arms Control, 15 May 2012
Acknowledgements

This Handbook has been several years in the making and thus there are many people and governments to thank.

The project benefited from the financial assistance of the Government of Germany. We are grateful for the support we received from Wolfgang Bindseil, Detlev Wolter, and their colleagues at the Foreign Ministry in Berlin.

We appreciate the time and assistance regional organizations’ officials gave of themselves and their staff in arranging visits to their headquarters or programme offices. This list includes APEC, ASEANPOL, CARICOM, NATO, OCO, the OSCE, the PICP, PIF, the RCC, and RECSA. These visits provided important insights into their organizations’ activities. We cannot mention here everyone with whom we met and all the officials and points of contact who were instrumental in compiling the profiles. Some people, however, were particularly generous with their time and information: Claudia Carolina Acosta Velásquez, Cyriaque Agnekeithom, Ioane Alama, Desy Andriani, Emmanuel Assama, Maria Brandstetter, Joseph Callixtus, Michael Chapnick, Ervin Dervina, Kyla Evans, Liliane Gashumba, Issa Goffa, Verónica Gómez, Meltem Güney, Martin Kimani, Linda Koroma, Farah Monika, Hefer Morataya, Elizabeth Mutunga, Jacques Mvom, Marie Thérèse Ngo Ndombol, Leonard Onyonji, Jelena Radakovic, Francis Xavier Rwego, Eva Sacasa, Mala Selvaraju, Stephen Singo, Salimata Sow, Sorin Sterie, Carolin Thielking, and Mike Urban. Erin De Glanville, Barbara Munube, and Alison August Treppel stand out in this regard as they good-naturedly put up with early efforts to address space constraints and frequent edits.

Gillian Goh, Catherine Guicherd, Roman Hunger, Kent Jamison, Christian Koch, Agnes Macaillou, Jim McLay, Mohammed Nore-Alam, Daniel Prins, Melanie Regimbal, Francis Sang, Jacqueline Seck-Diouf, and Anthony Simpson provided information on and access to regional organizations or small arms-related forums at which regional organizations were active.

Besides the officials named above, we wish to acknowledge the excellent cooperation we received from the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs and its three regional offices in Kathmandu, Lima, and Lomé.

Philip Alpers, Amanda Cowl, Kenneth Epps, Nicolas Gerard, Bill Godnick, Paul Holtom, Amber Jitts, Guy Lamb, Lina Maria Monten, Suneeita Millington, Jean-Philippe Morange, Augusta Muchai, Wolf-Christian Paes, Tyler Pratt, Francis Wairagz, and Robert Zuber, all provided valuable input to help us review and revise the profiles and other parts of the manuscript.

Many of our Survey colleagues also provided helpful inputs. Glenn McDonald and Sarah Parker were generous with their insights and expertise in framing the profiles. The project also benefited from research assistance provided by Takhmina Karimova, Chelsea Kelly, Pilar Reina, Elizabeth Simpson, Cristina Tavares de Bastos, Lauren Tracey, and Kristen Visakay. In this regard, Dauren Aben deserves recognition for taking the lead on several profiles. Martin Field’s numerous suggestions and insights made for a more attractive and user-friendly final product. Long-term
Survey consultants Richard Jones, Julian Knott, and Jillian Luff did excellent work on the Handbook’s format, icons, and maps, and the manuscript benefitted from the keen eyes and sharp pencils of copyeditor Alex Potter and proof reader Donald Strachan. And we were fortunate that editorial consultant Estelle Jobson was a quick study, well organized, and of good humour.

Finally, Natacha Cornaz merits special mention for the significant role she played in helping us assemble the myriad materials for finalizing the study, reviewing the entire manuscript, and taking the lead on several profiles.

— Eric G. Berman and Kerry Maze
Geneva, Switzerland
July 2012
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<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>AfDB</td>
<td>African Development Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMERIPOL</td>
<td>Police Community of the Americas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMISOM</td>
<td>AU Mission in Somalia</td>
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<tr>
<td>AML</td>
<td>Anti-money laundering</td>
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<tr>
<td>APEC</td>
<td>Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation</td>
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<tr>
<td>APF</td>
<td>African Peace Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASA</td>
<td>Association of South-east Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASEAN</td>
<td>Association of South-east Asian Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASEANAPOL</td>
<td>ASEAN Chiefs of Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>African Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCMS</td>
<td>Bosnian, Croatian, Montenegrin, Serbian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BH</td>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIMSTEC</td>
<td>Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMS</td>
<td>Biennial Meeting of States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMS3</td>
<td>Third Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMS4</td>
<td>Fourth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOT</td>
<td>British Overseas Territory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSEC</td>
<td>Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAN</td>
<td>Andean Community/Comunidad Andina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAR</td>
<td>Central African Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARICOM</td>
<td>Caribbean Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASAC</td>
<td>(SICA) Central American Programme on Small Arms Control/Programa Centroamericano de Control de Armas Pequeñas y Ligeras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBM</td>
<td>Confidence-building measure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCPAC</td>
<td>Central African Police Chiefs Committee/Comité des chefs de police de l’Afrique Centrale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDS</td>
<td>(UNASUR) South American Defence Council/Consejo de Defensa Suramericano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEDB</td>
<td>Council of Europe Development Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEEAC</td>
<td>Economic Community of Central African States/Communauté économique des États de l’Afrique centrale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEED</td>
<td>(UNASUR) Centre for Defence and Strategic Studies/Centro de Estudios Estratégicos de Defensa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEMAC</td>
<td>Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa/Communauté économique et monétaire de l’Afrique centrale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEN-SAD</td>
<td>Community of Sahel Saharan States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEPGL</td>
<td>Economic Community of Great Lakes Countries/Communauté économique des pays des Grands Lacs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEWARN</td>
<td>(IGAD) Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CFT</td>
<td>Counter-financing of terrorism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CICA</td>
<td>Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHARM</td>
<td>(OCO) Customs Head of Administration Regional Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIFTA</td>
<td>Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials/Convención Interamericana contra la Fabricación y el Tráfico Ilícitos de Armas de Fuego, Municiones, Explosivos y otros Materiales Relacionados</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIS</td>
<td>Commonwealth of Independent States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMC</td>
<td>(MERCOSUR) Common Market Council/Consejo del Mercado Común</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNMI</td>
<td>Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COARM</td>
<td>(EU) Working Group on Conventional Arms Exports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CODUN</td>
<td>(EU) Working Party on Global Disarmament and Arms Controls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COI</td>
<td>Indian Ocean Commission/Commission de l’Océan Indien</td>
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<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Full Form</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMESA</td>
<td>Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIN</td>
<td>(OCO) Customs Regional Intelligence Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSCE</td>
<td>Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil society organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSSDCA</td>
<td>Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTTF</td>
<td>(APEC) Counter-Terrorism Task Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CU</td>
<td>Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan, and the Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DDR</td>
<td>Disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFID</td>
<td>(UK) Department for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIHPSS</td>
<td>(CEEAC) Department for Human Integration, Peace, Security and Stability/Département de l’Intégration humaine, Paix, Sécurité et Stabilité</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRC</td>
<td>Democratic Republic of the Congo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAC</td>
<td>East African Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAPC</td>
<td>Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAPCCO</td>
<td>Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBRD</td>
<td>European Bank for Reconstruction and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECOSAP</td>
<td>ECOWAS Small Arms Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECOWAS</td>
<td>Economic Community of West African States/Communauté économique des États de l’Afrique de l’Ouest (CEDEO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEC</td>
<td>European Economic Community</td>
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<tr>
<td>EIB</td>
<td>European Investment Bank</td>
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<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<td>EUR</td>
<td>Euro(s)</td>
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<td>EurAsEC</td>
<td>Eurasian Economic Community</td>
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<td>EUROCONTROL</td>
<td>European Organization for the Safety of Air Navigation</td>
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<td>Europol</td>
<td>European Law Enforcement Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>FFA</td>
<td>(PIF) Forum Fisheries Agency</td>
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<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Full Form</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOMUC</td>
<td>Multinational Force in the Central African Republic/Force multinationale en Centrafrique</td>
</tr>
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<td>FRSC</td>
<td>Forum Regional Security Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCC</td>
<td>Cooperation Council for Arab States of the Gulf/Gulf Cooperation Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross domestic product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIABA</td>
<td>Inter-Governmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa/Groupe Intergouvernemental d’Action contre le Blanchiment d’Argent en Afrique de l’Ouest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIZ</td>
<td>German Society for International Cooperation/Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit</td>
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<tr>
<td>GTZ</td>
<td>German Technical Cooperation/Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit</td>
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<tr>
<td>GUAM</td>
<td>GUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Moldova) Organization for Democracy and Economic Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>GGUAM</td>
<td>Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Moldova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICC</td>
<td>International Criminal Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICGLR</td>
<td>International Conference on the Great Lakes Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICPAT</td>
<td>IGAD Capacity Building Programme Against Terrorism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGAD</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Authority on Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>IGADD</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIMS</td>
<td>(GUAM) Intergovernmental Information Management System</td>
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<tr>
<td>IMPACS</td>
<td>(CARICOM) Implementation Agency for Crime and Security</td>
</tr>
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<td>INTERPOL</td>
<td>International Criminal Police Organization</td>
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<td>IOM</td>
<td>International Organization for Migration</td>
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<td>IRCC</td>
<td>Inter-regional Coordination Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISS</td>
<td>Institute for Security Studies</td>
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<td>ISSP</td>
<td>IGAD Security Sector Programme</td>
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<td>ITC</td>
<td>International Trade Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAS</td>
<td>League of Arab States</td>
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<tr>
<td>LES</td>
<td>(OCO) Law Enforcement and Security Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANPADS</td>
<td>Man-portable air defence system(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Full Form</td>
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<tr>
<td>MERCOSUR</td>
<td>Southern Common Market/Mercado Común del Sur</td>
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<tr>
<td>MGE</td>
<td>Meeting of Governmental Experts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICOPAX</td>
<td>Mission for the Consolidation of Peace in the Central African Republic/Mission de consolidation de la paix en République Centrafricaine</td>
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<td>MoU</td>
<td>Memorandum of understanding</td>
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<td>MRU</td>
<td>Mano River Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSIAC</td>
<td>(NATO) Munitions Safety Information Analysis Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Not available</td>
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<td>NAMSA</td>
<td>NATO Maintenance and Supply Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATO</td>
<td>North Atlantic Treaty Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-governmental organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>NFP</td>
<td>National focal point</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPC</td>
<td>National point of contact</td>
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<td>OAS</td>
<td>Organization of American States</td>
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<tr>
<td>OAU</td>
<td>Organization of African Unity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCO</td>
<td>Oceania Customs Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>ODECA</td>
<td>Organization of Central American States/Organización de Estados Centroamericanos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIC</td>
<td>Organization of the Islamic Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIF</td>
<td>International Francophone Organization/Organisation internationale de la Francophonie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAPS</td>
<td>(CEEAC) Peace and Security Programme/Programme d’appui en matière de Paix et Sécurité</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCASED</td>
<td>Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development in Africa/Programme de Coordination et d’Assistance pour la Sécurité et le Développement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFP</td>
<td>(NATO) Partnership for Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICP</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Full Form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIDC</td>
<td>Pacific Immigration Directors Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIF</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIFS</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PoA</td>
<td>Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PoA-ISS</td>
<td>United Nations Programme of Action Implementation Support System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POC</td>
<td>Point of contact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSSM</td>
<td>Physical security and stockpile management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA</td>
<td>Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTCCC</td>
<td>Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RACVIAC</td>
<td>RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAMSI</td>
<td>Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RASALAC</td>
<td>Central African Action Network on Small Arms/Réseau d’action sur les armes légères en Afrique centrale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RASR</td>
<td>Regional Approach to Stockpile Reduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RATS</td>
<td>(SCO) Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCC</td>
<td>Regional Cooperation Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCC</td>
<td>(SARPCCO) Regional Coordinating Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RDB</td>
<td>(UNODA) Regional Disarmament Branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REC</td>
<td>Regional economic community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECSA</td>
<td>Regional Centre on Small Arms in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RevCon</td>
<td>Review Conference of the UN PoA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RF</td>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMDS/G</td>
<td>(SEESAC) Regional Micro-Disarmament Standards and Guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RO</td>
<td>Regional organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAARC</td>
<td>South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SADC</td>
<td>Southern African Development Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Full Form</td>
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<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SADCPOL</td>
<td>SADC Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SADR</td>
<td>Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SALW</td>
<td>Small arms and light weapons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARPCCO</td>
<td>Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCO</td>
<td>Shanghai Cooperation Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECI</td>
<td>Southeast European Cooperative Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEECP</td>
<td>South East European Cooperation Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEESAC</td>
<td>South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELEC</td>
<td>Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPCA</td>
<td>South-east Europe Police Chiefs Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SICA</td>
<td>Central American Integration System/Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIE</td>
<td>(NATO) Structured Information Exchange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOP</td>
<td>Standard operating procedure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>Secretariat of the Pacific Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPCPC</td>
<td>South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSR</td>
<td>Security sector reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAR</td>
<td>(APEC) Secure Trade in the Asia-Pacific Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SVG</td>
<td>St. Vincent and the Grenadines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAE</td>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UDEAC</td>
<td>Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa/Union douanière et économique de l’Afrique centrale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMA</td>
<td>Arab Maghreb Union/Union du Maghreb arabe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNAIDS</td>
<td>(UN) Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNASUR</td>
<td>Union of South American Nations/Unión de Naciones Suramericanas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>UN Development Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNECA</td>
<td>UN Economic Commission for Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbreviation</td>
<td>Full Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNECE</td>
<td>UN Economic Commission for Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>UN Children’s Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNGA</td>
<td>UN General Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIDIR</td>
<td>UN Institute for Disarmament Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNLIREC</td>
<td>UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament, and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNMIK</td>
<td>UN Mission in Kosovo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNODA</td>
<td>UN Office for Disarmament Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNODC</td>
<td>UN Office on Drugs and Crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNRCPD</td>
<td>UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNREC</td>
<td>UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNROCA</td>
<td>UN Register of Conventional Arms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNSAC</td>
<td>UN Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa/Comité consultatif permanent des Nations Unies chargé des questions de sécurité en Afrique centrale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNSG</td>
<td>UN Secretary-General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>US Agency for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USD</td>
<td>US dollar(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USSR</td>
<td>Union of Soviet Socialist Republics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UXO</td>
<td>Unexploded ordnance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAANSA</td>
<td>West African Action Network on Small Arms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAPCCO</td>
<td>West African Police Chiefs Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCO</td>
<td>World Customs Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGSIM</td>
<td>(PIF) Working Group for Strengthening Information Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMD</td>
<td>Weapon of mass destruction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PART I

Introduction and Overview
Importance of regional organizations

Countering the illicit trade in small arms requires regional action. In many countries small arms circulate in plentiful supply outside of state control. They are easy to conceal and their light weight facilitates their being transported across international borders. Cross-border demand for these weapons, attractive anticipated profits, and non-existent or ineffective national laws regulating arms brokering and the trafficking of small arms across porous state lines all call for regional cooperation.

Regional organizations have been addressing the problem of the illicit trade in small arms since the 1990s. Early regional measures included legally binding controls on imports, marking, and ownership; confidence-building measures such as information sharing on small arms imports and exports; and political commitments regarding the development of national legislation, agenda setting, and support for research. Organizations from all regions of the world were engaged in such early undertakings (see Table 1).

It was in this context that UN member states met in 2001 to address small arms trafficking. They recognized the regional dimension to the problem and called on regional organizations to be part of the solution. The UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA), adopted in July 2001, called for states to take action at the national, regional, and global

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Regional organization</th>
<th>Political instrument/measure taken</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Organization of American States (OAS)</td>
<td>Inter-American Convention Against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Association of South-east Asian Nations (ASEAN)</td>
<td>ASEAN Declaration on Transnational Crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR)</td>
<td>Southern Core Presidential Declaration on Combating the Illicit Manufacture and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition and Related Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>European Union (EU)</td>
<td>Code of Conduct on Arms Exports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)</td>
<td>Declaration of a Moratorium on Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Light Weapons in West Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Association of South-east Asian Nations (ASEAN)</td>
<td>ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)</td>
<td>Towards a Common Approach to Weapons Control ('Nadi Framework')</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Nairobi Secretariat (now known as RECSA)</td>
<td>Nairobi Declaration on the Problem of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Antigua Declaration on the Proliferation of Light Weapons in the Central American Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)</td>
<td>OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Organization of African Unity (OAU, now known as the AU)</td>
<td>Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
levels and additionally highlighted the positive role that regional organizations could play in implementing—and providing support to their members to implement—the agreement.

The number of regional organizations and the scope and scale of their activities has grown since the PoA was established, as has international interest in them. In January 2004 the Geneva Forum brought together 12 regional organizations (and three other entities) to meet for the first time to discuss cross-regional issues on small arms. Another clear manifestation of this interest was the May 2008 Synergy Conference for Regional Organizations on the Implementation of the UN Programme of Action on SALW, which assembled 16 regional organizations or their affiliated programmes (and a similar number of international organizations and their bodies and agencies) to present their activities and discuss ways forward. And in 2009 and 2010 the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) convened a series of regional-level meetings, with the active participation of regional organizations. Altogether, these various events engaged 19 different regional organizations on small arms at one point or another (see Table 2).

Regional organizations have much to offer in countering the illicit trade in small arms. They usually possess important expertise and a good understanding of cultural contexts, and political priorities and sensitivities. This knowledge, combined with regional

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates (mm.yy)</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Regional organizations attending/represented*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01.04</td>
<td>Geneva Forum Seminar</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>12: ASEAN, CAN, CARICOM, ECOWAS, LAS, MERCOSUR, Nairobi Secretariat, OAS, OSCE, PIF, RCC, SARPCCO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05.08</td>
<td>‘Synergy’ Conference</td>
<td>Brussels</td>
<td>16: ASEAN, AU, CAN, CARICOM, CIS, EAC, ECOWAS, EU, LAS, NATO, OAS, OSCE, RCC, RECSA, SARPCCO, SICA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06.09</td>
<td>UNODA Regional Meeting</td>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>1: PIF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07.09</td>
<td>UNODA Regional Meeting</td>
<td>Kigali</td>
<td>5: AU, ICGLR, RECSA, SADC, SARPCCO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03.10</td>
<td>UNODA Regional Meeting</td>
<td>Lima</td>
<td>3: CAN, MERCOSUR, OAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03.10</td>
<td>UNODA Regional Meeting</td>
<td>Bali</td>
<td>1: ASEAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04.10</td>
<td>UNODA Regional Meeting</td>
<td>Kinshasa</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: Geneva Forum (2004); NATO & OSCE (2008); PoA-ISS (n.d.a; n.d.b; n.d.c; n.d.d; n.d.e)

* We consider an official from a regional organization’s programme or project as representing the larger entity. For the sake of simplicity we have listed the organization in question and not the affiliated body in this table.
preferences for local solutions, allows them to detect early warning signs of burgeoning and escalating conflict, help build confidence, and be credible and effective mediators to help resolve or reduce tensions. Regional organizations enable external donors to assist many states through a single project. And governments may choose to work with a regional organization to provide assistance to a recipient that might be difficult to undertake on a bilateral basis.

It is against this backdrop and with this appreciation that the Small Arms Survey decided to undertake the present study. The Survey took note of the international community’s lack of sustained meaningful dialogue with regional organizations as part of the PoA framework and the largely uncritical nature of the debate when engagement was discussed. The Survey grew concerned that the rhetoric often did not reflect reality. Not every activity represented ‘progress’, nor did every joint undertaking represent a ‘synergy’. Some initiatives seemed especially worthy of support; others less so. How to distinguish them? And how to expand the dialogue to engage regional organizations that did not see themselves as relevant in implementing the PoA, but nevertheless had much to contribute to making it more effective?

Regional organizations: beyond ‘the usual suspects’

This Handbook adopts an inclusive approach to regional organizations. For the purposes of this study, a regional organization comprises governments that join together formally to support common economic, political, or security concerns in a geographically defined area and whose members are expected to contribute regularly towards the body’s operating costs and towards implementing its mandates. The study makes no distinction between regional and sub-regional organizations, treating them equally.

A functioning permanent secretariat is not a defining characteristic. Indeed, many regional police organizations featured in this study rely on external support (e.g. administration or office space) from INTERPOL’s regional bureaus or are affiliated bodies of another regional organization. They nevertheless have their own profiles, since they are autonomous in making decisions and setting their own agendas (and sometimes have different memberships than those with which they are associated).

The Survey recognizes that even this inclusive definition precludes some organizations and bodies that undertake relevant work at the regional level. Nor does this study examine regional-level initiatives outside of regional organizations. These are certainly worthy of examination—especially the roles of the three UN regional disarmament centres that undertake considerable work with regional organizations with very little international support (see Box 1), but are beyond the scope of this study.

This Handbook identifies 52 regional organizations as being active in implementing the PoA (see Table 3). This is considerably more than the ten or so regional organizations that are routinely invited to participate in the Preparatory Committees, Biennial Meetings of States (BMSs), Review Conferences (RevCons), or Meetings of Governmental Experts (MGEs) under the PoA framework. And more than the 12 regional organizations have attended the seven regional meetings that UNODA has convened since BMS3 or the 19 regional organizations profiled on the
Introduction and Overview

UNLIREC regularly works with many of the region's multilateral organizations. It has assisted the OAS in an extensive comparative study on national firearms legislation, law enforcement training, and a 2007 national workshop on best practices in stockpile management and weapons destruction. This was followed over the ensuing months by the destruction of tens of thousands of surplus and seized weapons. UNLIREC has also collaborated with CARICOM, MERCOSUR, and SICA in the organization and implementation of law enforcement capacity-building initiatives aimed at combating illicit firearms trafficking. Awareness-raising and advocacy events are held on a periodic basis through the hosting of seminars to promote small arms control instruments in which sub-regional organizations play a substantive role. More recently, UNLIREC has assisted member states in Latin America and the Caribbean in the management and security of their national small arms stockpiles and the identification and destruction of surplus, obsolete, and seized weapons and ammunition, among other initiatives.

The UNRCPD’s engagement with regional organizations on PoA-related matters has been relatively modest compared to that of UNREC and UNLIREC. The lack of enthusiasm among many of the region’s security officials in 2011 on small arms counter-proliferation issues such as stockpile management, marking, and tracing.

Recent UNGA decisions suggest that these centres could play a greater role in supporting the PoA in the coming years. In 2007 UNGA decided to fund three additional full-time posts at UNREC from the UN regular budget and to similarly cover some of the centre’s operating expenses. As of the end of 2009, for example, UNREC had 17 staff and had concluded terms or reference or memoranda of understanding with three regional organizations and was close to similar arrangements with three others. In 2009 UNGA decided to fund additional staff and the infusion of greater funding make them well placed to facilitate strengthened PoA implementation.

**Source:** Berman (2012)

**Box 1. UN regional centres for peace and disarmament**

Between 1985 and 1987 the UN General Assembly (UNGA) decided to establish three regional centres for peace and disarmament. The first, the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC), is based in Togo. Peru serves as the headquarters for the Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament, and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC). The third, the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD), has its office in Nepal, although it was based at UN Headquarters until 2008.

Of the 193 UN member states, 130 are eligible to receive assistance from these three centres. Broadly speaking, each centre has a similar mandate to provide, upon request, support for efforts by member states from the particular region to implement measures to promote peace and security.

The financial resources that UNGA made available for these centres’ operations were not commensurate with the tasks given to them. The centres receive administrative and managerial guidance and thematic input from UNODA, but very little in the way of financial assistance. For the first 20 years of the centres’ existence, support from the UN regular budget (i.e. assessed contributions from UN member states) covered only the salary and benefits of each centre’s director. All other staff, operational, and programme costs had to be covered with voluntary contributions.

This supplementary support has tended to be very modest. For example, voluntary contributions to the UNRCPD during the period July 2007–June 2008 totalled less than USD 200,000—a significant increase from previous anaemic levels of engagement. UNREC fared somewhat worse. UNLIREC, although not well funded, has done comparatively well, recording on average around USD 1.5 million a year in voluntary contributions for the period 2006–11.

These regional centres have nevertheless undertaken and supported many projects and initiatives that facilitate PoA implementation on small arms—including assistance to regional organizations. For example, UNREC developed a Code of Conduct for state security forces in Central Africa that was adopted in 2009. It supported CEEAC and Bacunda to develop a legally binding instrument to address the proliferation of small arms in the region, which was adopted in 2010. UNREC has assisted ECOVAS in helping to develop guidelines for national legislation among its members, and has given ECOVAS software for a database it has developed on arms flows, production, and holdings to serve as a regional confidence-building measure. It has entered into an agreement with RECASA to provide expertise in addressing illicit small arms brokering, to develop the capacities of civil society organizations, and to work on an information management database. UNREC is also on the AU’s steering committee that is developing a continental strategy on small arms.

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**Source:** Berman (2012)
### Table 3. This Handbook’s 52 profiled regional organizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>AU, African Union&lt;br&gt;CCPAC, Central African Police Chiefs Committee&lt;br&gt;CABAC, Economic Community of Central African States&lt;br&gt;CEN-SAD, Community of Sahel Saharan States&lt;br&gt;CERGL, Economic Community of Great Lakes Countries&lt;br&gt;COMESA, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa&lt;br&gt;EAC, East African Community&lt;br&gt;EAPCCO, Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization&lt;br&gt;ECOWAS, Economic Community of West African States&lt;br&gt;ICGLR, Intergovernmental Authority on Development&lt;br&gt;MRU, Mano River Union&lt;br&gt;RECSA, Regional Centre on Small Arms in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States&lt;br&gt;SADC, Southern African Development Community&lt;br&gt;SARPCO, Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization&lt;br&gt;UMA, Arab Maghreb Union&lt;br&gt;WAPCCO, West African Police Chiefs Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>COC, Oceania Customs Organization&lt;br&gt;PICP, Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police&lt;br&gt;PIF, Pacific Islands Forum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PoA Implementation Support Service web site that UNODA runs. The figure ‘52’ is indicative of the wide range of actors that undertake PoA-related work to some degree. A handful of the organizations profiled have had limited recent engagement on small arms issues. We chose to include them if they have PoA-related instruments and structures or if they have stated their intention to work towards countering the illicit trafficking of small arms. All of the organizations in this book are well positioned to engage in efforts to address the implementation of PoA-related commitments and activities. The Small Arms Survey does not suggest that only those regional organizations included in this study are ‘PoA relevant’.

These 52 regional organizations have diverse mandates. Some are primarily concerned with facilitating trade and raising revenues; others promote law and order; some concentrate on regional security. This very incomplete list succeeds in highlighting the breadth of issue areas covered. Any attempt to bundle the profiled organizations under descriptive categories is likely to cause more disagreement than elucidation and will not be attempted in this Handbook. Moreover, most regional organizations reviewed here have multiple mandates and agendas.

They also have diverse memberships. The number of members among the 52 organizations profiled range from 3 to 56. By ‘members’ we refer to ‘full members’ and not other categories

* It is important to compare ‘apples with apples’, so these calculations use our working definition of ‘regional organization’ and what we chose to cover in this study. The UN (and others) may find some of our ‘regional’ organizations to be ‘oranges’. These differences of opinion can likely be counted on one hand. Disagreements of this nature do not alter the thrust of the observation and point being made here.

* This figure focuses on economic organizations, some of which are not included in this study. Acronyms, country names, and memberships of organizations that are presented in this Handbook may differ.

Source: Wilson Center (2008, p. 34)
(e.g. ‘associate members’ or ‘observers’), of which there are often many. Every UN member state except North Korea is a member of at least one regional organization identified in this study. At the other end of the spectrum, several countries from Central and South-eastern Europe and neighbouring the Great Lakes Region of Africa are members of seven or eight of the featured regional organizations. This can create a dizzying array of overlapping and complementary—as well as sometimes-competing—commitments (see, for example, Figure 1).

Moreover, ten of these regional organizations include members that are not UN member states (see Table 4). As above, this refers to ‘full members’. Many more organizations include states, territories, organizations, and other entities that are not UN member states as ‘associate members’, ‘observers’, and the like.

These organizations’ financial wherewithal also differs dramatically. Some have large offices and bureaucracies and can rely on their members’ assessed contributions to carry out their work and implement their mandates. Others rely on in-kind contributions from their members (such as seconded staff) or rotating chairmanships without permanent secretariats, and must rely ‘hat-in-hand’ for support from external providers. When that support is not forthcoming or is delayed, projects stall or are derailed.

### Table 4. Members of profiled regional organizations that are not UN member states

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional organization</th>
<th>Non-UN member states</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMERIPOL</td>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APEC</td>
<td>Hong Kong, Taiwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARICOM</td>
<td>Montserrat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAS</td>
<td>Palestinian Territories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCO</td>
<td>American Samoa, CNMI, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Guam,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Caledonia, Niue, Norfolk Island, Wallis and Futuna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Holy See</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICP</td>
<td>American Samoa, CNMI, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Guam,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Caledonia, Niue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIF</td>
<td>Cook Islands, Niue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCC</td>
<td>Council of Europe, CEBR, EBRD, EIB, EU, EUM, NATO, OECD,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OSCE, SELEC, UN, ULDIP, UNICEF, UNMIR, World Bank</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Moreover, ten of these regional organizations include members that are not UN member states (see Table 4). As above, this refers to ‘full members’. Many more organizations include states, territories, organizations, and other entities that are not UN member states as ‘associate members’, ‘observers’, and the like.

The PoA commitments selected for review

The PoA does not limit the actions that regional organizations may undertake to meet UN member states’ commitments. It speaks of actions its members might or should undertake at the national, regional, and global levels. The Survey recognizes that regional organizations may support all activities, but an effort to document every activity was beyond what we believed was reasonable or useful for this exercise.

The study examines 19 PoA activities that refer to regional organizations by name or refer to regional-level action. Nine of these undertakings are outlined in section II of the PoA. We assume that regional organizations have, at a minimum, an important role to play in helping member states meet their regional-level
commitments. These commitments (covered in UN, 2001, sec. II, paras. 24–31) do not mention regional organizations by name except as concerns a point of contact (POC) (para. 24). We also include one global-level commitment (sec. II, para. 40)—cooperation with civil society—because the PoA explicitly mentions regional organizations by name in this regard. We also review ten additional activities, broadly speaking, covered as part of the PoAs calls for international cooperation and assistance in section III of the PoA. We include any support outlined for which regional organizations are mentioned by name as having a potential role (UN, 2001, sec. III, paras. 3–6, 8, 11, 14–16, 18). Some of this cooperation and assistance covers regional-level commitments covered in our treatment of PoA section II activities.

Selecting what elements of the PoA to examine was easier than determining which of their activities qualified as worthy of mention. Words in the PoA such as ‘encourage’, ‘support’, and ‘facilitate’ make it hard to pin down appropriate or expected actions and activities. To set parameters too strictly would reduce the activities covered and leave out important initiatives. To be too permissive would not be helpful either, suggesting actions and engagement on issues that were misleading or stretched the truth in terms of their impact or motivations.

We tried to strike a balance with an emphasis on supporting implementation and providing a useful service. For example, if as a result of compiling the book we succeeded in having the regional organization provide a POC, we considered the organization to have fulfilled its commitment and gave it a . We did not concern ourselves with whether this person had officially been ‘designated’ or ‘appointed’ (UN, 2001, II, para. 24).

In contrast, we believe it is unhelpful to set the bar too low when reviewing most other commitments. In general, we seek habitual and sustained action. Sending an official to attend a seminar, conference, or training session on, say, stockpile management or brokering controls does not on its own qualify as ‘implementing’ this objective. In such a case we might note the activity in the ‘PoA activity’ narrative, but alone it would not earn an icon.

The full text of the PoA is provided in Annex 4, but relevant paragraphs noted above are listed in Table 5. This table also includes the icons associated with the selected activity. The icons are not meant to portray every possible activity covered in the paragraph, but to identify visually, in a helpful manner, the main activity covered. The table also includes some examples of what we considered to be relevant and appropriate, and deserving of receiving ‘credit’.

How to use this Handbook
Part II of this Handbook includes a series of two-page profiles for each regional organization chosen for inclusion in this study. To make the most of the limited space provided we have not used in-text citations or footnotes. Abbreviations and acronyms are not always spelled out the first time they appear for things that are referred to frequently; however, they are listed exhaustively in the list of abbreviations and acronyms. We also use symbols and abbreviations. The PoA commitment icons, described in Table 5, are included in a fold-out ‘Key’ that can
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full text reference (PoA section/paragraph) (bold not found in the original text)</th>
<th>Icon</th>
<th>Examples of relevant activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To establish or designate, as appropriate, a point of contact within subregional and regional organizations to act as liaison on matters relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action (II.24).</td>
<td></td>
<td>Identified a POC (person or specific office) and provided contact details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To encourage negotiations, where appropriate, with the aim of concluding relevant legally binding instruments aimed at preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and where they do exist to ratify and fully implement them (II.25).</td>
<td></td>
<td>Concluded or are developing legally binding instruments (e.g. treaties, conventions, protocols) to explicitly counter illicit trafficking of small arms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To encourage the strengthening and establishing, where appropriate and as agreed by the States concerned, of moratoria or similar initiatives in affected regions or subregions on the transfer and manufacture of small arms and light weapons, and, regional action programmes to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and to respect such moratoria, similar initiatives, and/or action programmes and cooperate with the States concerned in the implementation thereof, including through technical assistance and other measures (II.26).</td>
<td></td>
<td>Endorsed self-imposed limitations on transfers and production of small arms (e.g. embargoes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To establish, where appropriate, subregional or regional mechanisms, in particular trans-border customs cooperation and networks for information-sharing among law enforcement, border and customs control agencies, with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons across borders (II.27).</td>
<td></td>
<td>Established cross-border databases/information-sharing mechanisms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To encourage States to promote safe, effective stockpile management and security, in particular physical security measures, for small arms and light weapons, and to implement, where appropriate, regional and subregional mechanisms in this regard (II.28).</td>
<td></td>
<td>Developed specific policies, standards, or best practice guidelines on laws, regulations, or administrative procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To support, where appropriate, national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, particularly in post-conflict situations, with special reference to the measures agreed upon in paragraphs 28 to 31 of this section (II.30).</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provided financial or in-kind support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To encourage regions to develop, where appropriate and on a voluntary basis, measures to enhance transparency with a view to combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects (II.31).</td>
<td></td>
<td>Agreed on measures to share information on small arms imports and exports (either publicly or among members only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To encourage the relevant international and regional organizations and States to facilitate the appropriate cooperation of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in activities related to the prevention, combat and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, in view of the important role that civil society plays in this area (II.40).</td>
<td></td>
<td>Routinely extend invitations to CSOs to participate in (or observe) meetings (e.g. working groups and technical committees)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States and appropriate international and regional organizations in a position to do so should, upon request of the relevant authorities, seriously consider rendering assistance, including technical and financial assistance where needed, such as small arms funds, to support the implementation of the measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects as contained in the Programme of Action (III.3).</td>
<td></td>
<td>Granted monetary assistance from own budget (including grants and loans) Established or managed small arms funds Provided direct technical guidance and support or in-kind assistance (e.g. lending equipment, secondment)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full text reference (PoA section/paragraph) (hold not found in the original text)</td>
<td>Icon used</td>
<td>Examples of relevant activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States and international and regional organizations should, upon request by the affected States, consult, participate in, or lead the development of peace agreements, or sponsored or hosted dialogue among warring entities.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Consulted, participated in, or led the development of peace agreements, or sponsored or hosted dialogue among warring entities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States and international and regional organizations should consider promotion and assistance of the pursuit of negotiated solutions to conflicts, including by addressing their root causes.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Participated in or sponsored peacekeeping, observation, or monitoring missions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States and international and regional organizations should, upon request by the affected States, consider assisting and promoting conflict prevention. Where requested by the parties concerned, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, States and international and regional organizations should consider promotion and assistance of the pursuit of negotiated solutions to conflicts, including by addressing their root causes.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Established early warning mechanisms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States and international and regional organizations should, where appropriate, cooperate, develop and strengthen partnerships to share resources and information on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Developed or assisted the development of registers, rosters, or databases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With a view to facilitating implementation of the Programme of Action, States and international and regional organizations should seriously consider assisting interested States, upon request, in building capacities in areas including the development of appropriate legislation and regulations, law enforcement, tracing and marking, stockpile management and security, destruction of small arms and light weapons and the collection and exchange of information.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provided technical or advisory support to states to develop, amend, or harmonize legislation, incl. the development of model legislation or regulations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States undertake to cooperate with each other, including on the basis of the relevant existing global and regional legally binding instruments as well as other agreements and arrangements, and, where appropriate, with relevant international, regional and intergovernmental organizations, in tracing illicit small arms and light weapons, in particular by strengthening mechanisms based on the exchange of relevant information.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provided or supported the procurement of equipment or software.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upon request, States and appropriate international or regional organizations in a position to do so should provide assistance to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons linked to drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Directly addressed issues linked with small arms (trafficking of drugs and other commodities, piracy, terrorism, organized crime).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Particularly in post-conflict situations, and where appropriate, the relevant regional and international organizations should support, within existing resources, appropriate programmes related to the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Supported DDR and related programmes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States, regional and subregional and international organizations, research centres, health and medical institutions, the United Nations system, international financial institutions and civil society are urged, as appropriate, to develop and support action-oriented research aimed at facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of the problems associated with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Prepared or sponsored research on PoA-related themes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States and international and regional organizations should, where appropriate, cooperate, develop and strengthen partnerships to share resources and information on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Developed or assisted the development of registers, rosters, or databases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With a view to facilitating implementation of the Programme of Action, States and international and regional organizations should seriously consider assisting interested States, upon request, in building capacities in areas including the development of appropriate legislation and regulations, law enforcement, tracing and marking, stockpile management and security, destruction of small arms and light weapons and the collection and exchange of information.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provided technical or advisory support to states to develop, amend, or harmonize legislation, incl. the development of model legislation or regulations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>States undertake to cooperate with each other, including on the basis of the relevant existing global and regional legally binding instruments as well as other agreements and arrangements, and, where appropriate, with relevant international, regional and intergovernmental organizations, in tracing illicit small arms and light weapons, in particular by strengthening mechanisms based on the exchange of relevant information.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provided or supported the procurement of equipment or software.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>States, regional and subregional and international organizations, research centres, health and medical institutions, the United Nations system, international financial institutions and civil society are urged, as appropriate, to develop and support action-oriented research aimed at facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of the problems associated with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Prepared or sponsored research on PoA-related themes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
be viewed and consulted when reading an entry for ease of reference. This key also contains information on the language codes. Figure 2 provides additional explanatory text regarding the layout.

The profiles are organized by five geographic regions: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania. Many of the profiled regional organizations include memberships from more than one region. In these instances, we chose to place the organization in the region in which most of its original members ‘reside’. We deemed the contrivance of labelling the League of Arab States as ‘Asian’ or NATO as ‘European’ as worthwhile. It facilitates the review of states’ multiple affiliations in Annexe 3.

Each entry might be described as having three parts. The first section (in white) contains background information of a general nature on the organization. The second (shaded) provides a count of PoA-related activities and commitments. The third section (within the shaded area) includes a map that reflects the organization’s (changing) membership, along with a list of the members.

The first section (see Figure 2) includes the location of the headquarters; relevant websites (where applicable); a short description of the regional organization’s overall mandate and objectives; information on its members, history, and funding; and examples of its members’ overlapping affiliations with other regional organizations. We highlight if the organization contains members that are not UN member states. The organization’s previous names and changes in membership are touched upon. When space permitted, we added details on the organization’s associated members and observers. Effort is made to include some information on the organization’s finances and major funders, with attention paid to PoA-related activities when possible.

The second section (see Figure 2) provides the name and contact details of the organization’s PoA POC (when applicable), PoA-related activities and cooperation with other regional organizations, and official documents of note. The contact details include the organization’s official and working languages and (some of) the languages the POC speaks. Legally binding instruments are listed separately. Information on the status of the instrument is noted in the narrative. The web version of this study includes links to documents when they are online.

The third section (see Figure 2) includes the organization’s membership. It lists current members, former members, and countries with memberships pending. Distinction is made between founding members (that relate to the organization’s predecessor, when applicable) and those that joined subsequently. Members that are suspended are also noted. If a member suspends itself (as Eritrea has done in the case of IGAD) or on its own decides to downgrade its status (as Turkmenistan has done in the CIS), we note this in the narrative. But to be ‘suspended’, the action must come from the organization itself and not from a disgruntled member. The map captures this information (except for the distinction between founding and subsequent members) and notes the organization’s headquarters. (The PoC may be located outside of the headquarters, because many organizations and their programmes have offices in more than one country.)
Figure 2. Information regarding the regional organization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African Union (AU)</td>
<td>33 members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.au.int">www.au.int</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overlapping memberships with other ROs:

Examples of memberships in other ROs. Annexes 2 and 3 provide complete listings.

PoA-related activities:

Activities relevant to PoA Parts II and III, as noted in Table 5.

PoA-related programmes and initiatives:

See Table 5 on pp. 10–11.

PoA POC:

The RO’s official and working languages spoken by the RO are shaded in white, those not spoken by the RO are in pink. All six UN official languages are included, as are Dutch, German, and Portuguese, designated by the first letter of the language (in English). If the RO has official and working languages not in this list, this is flagged with an asterisk “*” and the information noted.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs:

Examples of cooperation with other ROs. Annexes 2 and 3 provide complete listings.

Legally binding regional instruments:

Examples of the RO’s legally binding instruments (e.g. charters, protocols, and treaties). Only those that make explicit reference to countering small arms proliferation, trafficking, or illicit possession merit an icon, however.

Other official documents of interest:

Selected examples of other PoA-related documents. Annexes 2 and 3 provide complete listings.

PoA-related programmes and initiatives:

See Table 5 on pp. 10–11.

Current members:

Distinguishes ROs founding members (in bold) and those currently suspended (in yellow). Founding members correspond to members at ROs creation. If RO followed directly from another, then founding members refer to the former RO.

A guide to the symbols used in these profiles can be found on the fold-out flap on the Handbook’s back cover.
The Handbook also contains four Annexes. Annex 1 lists the members of the profiled organizations, including 193 UN member states; 16 other states, territories, and economies; and 15 organizations, banks, and institutions. Observers and other affiliations besides full members of these regional organizations are not included. Annex 2 provides the regional organizations’ UN member states and the 16 other states, territories, and economies by region. Annex 3 records each UN member states’ membership in the profiled regional organizations. And Annex 4 provides a full text in English of the PoA for reference purposes. (The electronic version of this study has links to the PoA in the five other UN official languages.) There is also a fold-out key to the PoA commitment icons and the letters used to denote regional organizations’ official and working languages used in the profiles.

Observations and aspirations

This Handbook is meant as a guide to provide useful information in a user-friendly format and to encourage discussion. Indeed, this study is more interested in moving the agenda forward and helping to implement the PoA than in highlighting shortcomings.

This report is not an evaluation of regional organizations’ activities or effectiveness. A regional organization ‘awarded’ more activity icons does not mean it is more effective than another sporting fewer. Nor does an icon mean that the regional organization in question is necessarily credited with having successfully supported that particular commitment. As noted above, words such as ‘encourage’, ‘cooperate’, and ‘strengthen’ make it challenging to determine what activities qualify for inclusion. And constructions such as ‘where applicable’ and ‘should consider’ create additional challenges when addressing regional organizations with very different mandates, memberships, and resources. Intelligent, supportive, committed, and well-meaning people armed with the same facts may come to different conclusions regarding their assessments. Additionally, the lack of an activity may reflect an organization’s adherence to its mandate and objectives, a clear-sighted unilateral decision, or an agreement to have a peer institution take the lead in certain areas, given overlapping memberships, burden sharing, or comparative advantages. Non-action can thus sometimes be viewed positively as an indicator of cost-effectiveness, avoidance of duplication of effort, or battles over ‘turf’. Certainly there are concrete examples of such cooperation and engagement, which have grown and strengthened in the past few years.16

That said, despite progress towards greater transparency and rationality in seeking and utilizing scarce resources, more can be done—and done better. As UN member states, regional organizations, and members of civil society move forward to work together to implement the PoA, take stock of accomplishments and challenges over the past decade, and plan for the future, it would be useful when consulting this Handbook to keep in mind the following questions and situations:

Regional organization–member relations: Members furnish their organizations with mandates and resources, and the organizations and their secretariats provide services and expertise to their members. However, most regional organizations have a limited
amount of resources at their disposal for addressing small arms issues. This can affect the level at which a regional organization can cooperate in other regional initiatives or implement large donor projects.

- Are member states’ dues sufficient to fulfil the expectations placed on the regional organization for implementing the PoA?
- Do the activities of the regional organization sometimes inadvertently replace or diminish a state’s national-level action?
- Do states provide the regional organization with enough clout or independence to undertake supportive regional actions in the area of small arms?

**Donor–regional organization relations:** Numerous PoA-related initiatives benefit from the support that regional organizations receive from external donors. Examples range from the procurement of marking machines, to underwriting workshops, to imparting expertise on matters ranging from brokering controls to stockpile management. However, frequent dependency on external funding makes it difficult for regional organizations to plan regional action. Rather than be proactive in their support to member states, they are instead often reactive to donor funding. The following questions should therefore be asked:

- Will the assistance that is being offered address what is most pressing or appropriate for the regional organization and its members?
- Does the support, whether proposed or requested, correspond to or follow up on established action plans?
- Do receiving regional organizations have the capacity to absorb the assistance?

- What expectations can be placed on regional organization members to reduce regional organizations’ dependency on external funding?

**UN–regional organization relations:** The PoA remains the only framework for regional organizations to engage globally and cross-regionally on small arms. UNODA has also organized regional meetings in collaboration with donors and regional organizations. However, these meetings are not guaranteed within the PoA framework. Through UNODA’s regional centres, the UN also provides significant support to regional organizations and their member states. Although the Handbook has not focused on UN regional activities, the relationships involved in such activities influence much of the activity covered between the book’s covers:

- How can PoA meetings better engage regional organizations, including those focusing on counter-terrorism, customs, and narcotics?
- How can UN regional meetings more constructively engage regional organizations?
- How can UNODA’s three regional centres be used more effectively to assist regional organizations to implement the PoA?

**Regional organization–civil society relations:** Many regional organizations work closely with representatives from civil society. Examples include regional organizations routinely inviting civil society to participate in their meetings and commissioning regional organizations to carry out action-oriented research. Given the often small human and financial resources allotted to regional organizations to focus on small arms issues, civil society organizations...
Regional Organizations and the PoA

Regional Organizations and the PoA

can be a useful resource to support and implement regional-level activities.

- How can regional organizations that do not yet benefit from civil society participation be encouraged to do so?
- How can members of civil society better take advantage of the unique role of regional organizations and more ably build on the latter’s accomplishments?

If this study’s overview, questions, and profiles contribute to an enhanced appreciation for these regional actors’ activities and potential, and new information contained herein encourages greater cooperation and more effective assistance, then the Handbook will have achieved its goal.
Endnotes

1 We did not include regional bodies in the UN system or other international organizations such as INTERPOL. Nor did we include organizations such as The Commonwealth, the International Organization of La Francophonie, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, or the Wassenaar Arrangement, because their common concerns are not limited by geography.

2 Noteworthy undertakings include the RASR Initiative (see <www.rasrinitiative.org>) and the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre (PTCCC). The RASR Initiative involves nine South-east European states sharing information on their surpluses and demilitarization capacities to build confidence and encourage best practice and economic savings. The PTCCC provides a framework for PIF members to share information on transnational crime in the Pacific to counter illicit arms trafficking, among other illegal activities.

3 For example, for the first RevCon (2006) the UN sent official invitations to nine regional organizations, for BMS3 (2008) ten, and for the MGE (2011) seven. Nine regional organizations were invited to two or more of these three events (see UNGA, 2006; 2008c; 2011).

4 Besides the ten mentioned as having attended the five regional meetings listed in Table 2, ASEANAPOL and CARICOM participated in two additional UNODA-convened regional meetings in 2012: in Bali and Kingston in March and April, respectively.

5 See UNGA (1985; 1986; 1987), dealing with the centres for Africa, Latin America, and Asia, respectively. The centres for Latin America and Asia were subsequently expanded to include the Caribbean and the Pacific, respectively. See below.

6 The initial mandate for UNLIREC (abbreviated as ‘UN-LiREC’ until very recently) focused on Latin America. Two years later UNGA decided to expand the centre’s mandate to include countries in the Caribbean. See UNGA (1988).

7 The UNRCPD’s initial mandate focused on Asia. Two years later UNGA decided to expand the centre’s mandate to include countries in the Pacific region. See UNGA (1987).

8 The office’s move in August 2008 to Kathmandu from UN headquarters in New York followed the Host Country Agreement concluded in July 2007 (UNDPI, 2008). The first Kathmandu-based director assumed his duties in October 2008 (author interview with and correspondence from Marcaillou, 2009).

9 UNREC supports 54 UN member states, UNLIREC 33, and the UNRCPD 43. Countries not benefiting directly from one of these three centres include 43 UN member states from Europe (UNSD, 2011), 17 from Western Asia (UNSD, 2011), and Canada, Iran, and the United States. Of course, UNODA, which oversees the work of the three centres, also assists countries from other regions and works with their regional organizations. For example, UNODA has organized meetings with the League of Arab States on small arms issues.

10 UNODA does not have much discretionary funding to draw on to support the centres. The head of UNODA’s RDB had the following to say about the financial situation in her brief to the UNGA First Committee in October 2009: ‘Today we may acknowledge that the Regional Disarmament Branch was taken [out] of the Intensive Care Unit ... last year, and that the patient is now stabilized. We are not in a position to declare “full recovery” yet, but we have clear signs that the “treatment/protocols” which we applied are being effective. Overall, this year, emphasis has been shifted from “survival” to “sustainability and impact” of RDB’s action’ (UNODA, 2009). At times, UNODA has helped offset some administrative and logistical expenses the centres incur when they host or otherwise support meetings in their regions.

11 During 2006 UN member states’ contributions totalled less than USD 40,000 (UNGA, 2008b).

12 The three centres also use their limited funds to support the implementation and establishment of various treaties and conventions concerning weapons of mass destruction (such as the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty and region-specific agreements) and conventional weapons (e.g. banning cluster munitions). Public education and awareness campaigns as well as coordination efforts within the UN system also consume much of the centres’ limited financial and human resources.

13 Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali established the UN Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa in 1992 in response to a UNGA resolution supporting a CEEAC proposal for such assistance. Rwanda, a CEEAC member at the time, unilaterally withdrew from the regional organization in 2007. But UNREC through UNODA continues to support all 11 original CEEAC
member states through the framework of the Standing Advisory Committee (author interview with and correspondence from Marcaillou, 2009).

14 By contrast, the UNRCPD in 2009 had a director, a special coordinator, an associate expert, an administrative assistant, and a driver/messenger (UNRCPD, n.d.). At the time, the special coordinator was seconded by Switzerland and the associate expert was a junior political officer from the Netherlands.

15 For this purpose, the Survey used the classification and categorization of the UN Statistical Division (revised 20 September 2011).

16 The 2008 informal agreement of NATO/NAMSA, the OSCE, UNDP, and the RCC/SEESAC to meet at least once a year to brief one another on their PoA-related projects is one such example.
PART II

Profiles of Regional Organizations
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Name
African Union (AU)

Headquarters
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Web site
www.au.int

Short description
The AU seeks to promote political and socio-economic integration, peace and security, democratic principles and institutions, sustainable development, and respect for human rights among African states, and to raise the living standards of Africans.

Membership
54 members (53 are UN member states)

Notes
The AU began in 1963 as the Organization of African Unity (OAU) with 33 members. It became the AU in 2002. With South Sudan joining the organization in July 2011, the AU’s membership has grown to 54. The SADR is the only AU member that is not also a UN member. It joined the OAU in 1984, which resulted in Morocco choosing to withdraw from the organization. As of June 2012 three AU members were under suspension: Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, and Mali.

Funding
In 2010 the AU budget amounted to USD 250 million. The AU–EU Partnership makes the EU the largest external contributor. The Decisions of the 14th AU Summit (2010) requested member states to increase their contributions to the Peace Fund from 6 to 12 per cent over a three-year period beginning in 2011. Germany (through its international development agency, GIZ) and the United States are among other bilateral donors also providing assistance to the AU.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
AU members represent:
- 9 of 22 LAS members (Algeria, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Somalia, Sudan, and Tunisia are LAS members)

PoA POC
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PoA-related activities
The OAU adopted the Bamako Declaration in December 2000 in order to develop a common position and generate political support for the 2001 UN Conference on Small Arms that led to the PoA. The AU has since called on its members to take concrete steps to implement the Bamako Declaration and the PoA, e.g. via the CSSDCA (2002) and Windhoek Common Position (2005), and has recognized the links among illicit trafficking of small arms and terrorism, corruption, and drug trafficking. More recently, the AU established the AU-Regions Steering Committee on Small Arms in 2008. The committee, made up of 10 RECs and two observers (see below), seeks to enhance capacity, and harmonize and coordinate the efforts of the AU, RECs, and other regional bodies with small arms mandates. In 2011 member states adopted the AU Strategy on the Control of Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons. This strategy calls on the AU to grant the Steering Committee on Small Arms the status of a standing committee and sets out responsibilities in such areas as coordination and information sharing, and engaging civil society across the continent.
Responsibility for implementing the strategy is at three levels: states at the national level, RECs and regional bodies at the regional level, and the AU Commission at the continental level. The Steering Committee on Small Arms, with the regional police organizations and civil society, also monitors implementation of an EU-funded (EUR 3.3 million) project administered by RECSA. The AU engages in peace dialogue via its diplomatic prevention mechanisms (Panel of the Wise), has a continental early warning system, and conducts some small arms collection and destruction activities through its peace support operations (e.g. AMISOM).

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

The AU-Regions Steering Committee on Small Arms consists of CEEAC, CEN-SAD, COMESA, EAC, ECOWAS, IGAD, the ICGLR, RECSA, SADC, and UMA. The EU is an observer, as is UNREC. RECSA administers the above-mentioned EU-funded project.

Legally binding regional instruments

None

Other official documents of interest

- African Union Strategy on the Control of Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (2011)
**Name**
Central African Police Chiefs Committee (CCPAC)

**Headquarters**
Yaoundé, Cameroon

**Web site**
None

**Short description**
CCPAC focuses on a range of issues related to cross-border crime, including trafficking in women, children, and human body parts; ivory and drugs smuggling; armed robbery; terrorism; environmental crime; car theft; and cyber crime.

**Membership**
8 members (all UN member states)

**Notes**
CCPAC is a specialized body of CEMAC; however, it has two more members than CEMAC, i.e. the DRC and São Tomé and Príncipe. The eight members established CCPAC by resolution in Brazzaville in 1997.

**Funding**
Although CEMAC provides some funding, the amount does not cover all operational activities. The 9th CCPAC meeting recommended that the respective national budgets include CCPAC’s operational activities. Members of CEMAC direct their contributions through that organization; however, the two non-CEMAC countries (the DRC and São Tomé and Príncipe) must do so separately, but have not done so regularly. There is reportedly always a discrepancy, sometimes significant, between the amounts budgeted by CEMAC and the amount effectively disbursed—the monies are never made fully available, although there is no official reason why this is the case.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
CCPAC members represent:
- 6 of 6 CEMAC members
- 8 of 10 CEEAC members
- 1 of 19 COMESA members
- 3 of 11 ICGLR members
- 3 of 15 RECSA members

**PoA POC**
Name: Emmanuel Assama
Title: Head of Bureau, Permanent Secretary of CCPAC, INTERPOL Regional Bureau

**PoA-related activities**
In 2000 CEMAC made CCPAC one of its specialized bodies. The INTERPOL Regional Bureau in Yaoundé, Cameroon, serves as its Permanent Secretariat. It is the smallest of the four police chiefs organizations in Africa. Focusing on regional transnational crime, it has prepared instruments related to terrorism and the handing over of suspected criminals from one police service to that of another country. CCPAC planned information sharing and the coordination of activities as part of a concerted pan-regional effort to address the illicit accumulation and trafficking of firearms and explosive materials; however, this activity has not yet taken place. The region faces significant challenges because of a large influx of weapons from Libya to the Sahel region and related to the 2012 coup in Mali. In terms of weapons, there have been very limited successes.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**
CCPAC has planned to undertake joint operations with EAPCCO under a pan-African initiative to
strengthen regional cooperation on combating the illicit accumulation and trafficking of firearms and explosives in Africa; however, these have yet to take place. Recent attempts have been made to reinforce cooperation with ECOWAS.

**Legally binding regional instruments**

**Other official documents of interest**
- 11th African Police Chief Committee (CCPAC) Annual General Meeting of Ministers in Charge of Security, prepared remarks by INTERPOL secretary-general, Libreville, Gabon, 15 October 2010
- Règlement N° 07/05-UEAC-057-CM-13 portant adoption de la Convention créant un Centre de Formation spécialisée en matière d’Enquête criminelle (2005)

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**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

*Current members*
- Cameroon, CAR, Chad, Congo, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, São Tomé and Príncipe

*Former members: None*

*Membership pending: None*

*Information accurate as of 19 April 2012*
**Name**
Economic Community of Central African States (CEEAC)

**Headquarters**
Libreville, Gabon

**Web site**
www.ceeac-eccas.org

**Short description**
CEEAC’s main objective is to promote regional economic cooperation in Central Africa. It aspires to achieve collective autonomy, raise the standard of living of its populations, and maintain economic stability through harmonious cooperation.

**Membership**
10 members (all UN member states)

**Notes**
CEEAC owes its origins to two separate entities, UDEAC and CEPGL. Established in 1983, CEEAC originally included São Tomé and Príncipe plus the nine members of UDEAC and CEPGL. Angola became a full member in 1999. Rwanda withdrew from the organization in 2007.

**Funding**
Payments by member states are not always regular. In 2011 the budget was made up of contributions of about USD 30 million by member states, almost USD 9 million of arrears, plus USD 56 million from foreign partners. These foreign partners are (in decreasing order of the amount contributed) the EU, France, and the United States. The AfDB and Canada have also provided financial support. The EU funds CEEAC through the African Peace Facility (APF) programme and the Peace and Security Programme (PAPS). Funding of PAPS I (2007–11) amounted to EUR 4.8 million, while a second phase for 2011–14, PAPS II, is estimated at EUR 11.9 million.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
CEEAC members represent:
- 8 of 8 CCPAC members
- 6 of 6 CEMAC members
- 5 of 11 IGCLR members
- 4 of 15 RECSA members

**PoA POC**
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**PoA-related activities**
In 1999 CEEAC identified ‘peace, security and stability’ as among its main priorities and established the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa (COPAX). Within the CEEAC Secretariat, PoA-related activities are conducted by the Department for Human Integration, Peace, Security, and Stability (DIHPSS). A major step forward in the region was the adoption of the Kinshasa Convention in 2010, which was proposed by UNSAC and signed by ten CEEAC members plus Rwanda. This legally binding instrument establishes measures to control the production, trade, and use of small arms. The UNSG is the guardian of the Kinshasa Convention, while CEEAC is responsible for its implementation. CEEAC has notably held awareness seminars with different stakeholders and organized training programmes to facilitate the establishment of national commissions. The EU-funded PAPS project mainly aims to reinforce structural and institutional capacities, as well as supporting cross-border and small arms activities. These activities include: (a) harmonization of national legislation; (b) SSR training; (c) implementation support of the Kinshasa Convention; and (d) assistance to the Central African Action.
Network on Small Arms (RASALAC), a regional civil society network launched in 2010, which provides CEEAC with specialized support. The APF Border Programme focuses on cross-border security, targeting small arms proliferation.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**
CEEAC, ECOWAS, and the Gulf of Guinea Commission work on a common strategy to suppress piracy, armed robbery, and other illicit maritime activities. In the elaboration of the Kinshasa Convention, ECOWAS assisted CEEAC with its expertise from the Nairobi Protocol. CEMAC and CEEAC have overlapping member states; to avoid duplication, CEEAC took the lead on peace and security, including some DDR activities, and CEMAC on regional integration (see CEMAC profile). CEEAC and RECSA have organized joint seminars on small arms through the EU-funded Pan-Africa Project of RECSA with the AU Steering Committee on Small Arms.

**Legally binding regional instruments**
- Treaty Establishing CEEAC (1983)
- Non-aggression Pact between Member States (1996)
- Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition, Parts and Components that Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair or Assembly (‘Kinshasa Convention’) (2010)

**Other official documents of interest**

*Information accurate as of 31 May 2012*
Regional Organizations and the PoA

**Name**
Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC)

**Headquarters**
Bangui, Central African Republic

**Web site**
www.cemac.int

**Short description**
CEMAC aims to create a customs and monetary union among the former French Central African countries.

**Membership**
6 members (all UN member states)

**Notes**
CEMAC superseded UDEAC in 1999—although the establishing treaty was signed in 1994—to promote the entire process of sub-regional integration.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
CEMAC members represent:
- 6 of 8 CCPAC members
- 6 of 10 CEEAC members
- 2 of 11 ICGLR members (CAR and Congo are ICGLR members)
- 2 of 15 RECSA members (CAR and Congo are RECSA members)

**Funding**
Funding is ensured by contributions from member states, the community integration tax, development funds, and additional funding from external partners. When the FOMUC mission was deployed to CAR, France provided substantial financial and logistical support, but the EU covered most of the costs. Germany also funded the purchase of equipment.

**PoA POC**
Name: Marie Thérèse Ngo Ndombol
Title: Police Inspector

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**PoA-related activities**
CEMAC typically focuses strictly on economic issues. However, it deployed the regional peacekeeping force to CAR (FOMUC) from January 2003 to July 2008, replacing the CEN-SAD mission. This temporary shift in focus was based on the belief that development was a prerequisite for a peaceful and safe environment. FOMUC’s tasks were to ensure security and fight armed groups in northeast CAR. Although FOMUC’s mandate did not explicitly include disarmament, over the course of its duties the peacekeepers recovered around 100 weapons and more than 1,000 rounds of ammunition. What happened to the weapons recovered during early post-coup operations has remained unclear. Given CEMAC’s overlapping membership with CEEAC, and to eliminate duplication, with the (financial) encouragement of the EU it was decided that CEEAC would lead on peace and security, while CEMAC would focus on regional integration. As of 12 July 2008 CEMAC is no longer in charge of security-related issues in Central Africa. The FOMUC mission was replaced by MICOPAX under CEEAC’s authority. Nevertheless, CCPAC,
which focuses on regional trans-border crime, is a specialized body of CEMAC (see CCPAC entry).

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

In 2000 CEMAC made CCPAC one of its specialized bodies.

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- Treaty Establishing CEMAC (1994)
- Pacte de Non Agression, de Solidarité et d’Assistance Mutuelle entre les États Membres de la CEMAC (2004)
- Acte Additionnel N° 21/08-CEMAC-CCE-09 Autorisant le Transfert de l’Autorité de la FOMUC de la CEMAC à la CEAC (2008)

**Other official documents of interest**

- Règlement N° 07/05-UEAC-057-CM-13 portant adoption de la Convention créant un Centre de Formation spécialisée en matière d’Enquête criminelle (2005)

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**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

- Current members*
  - Cameroon, CAR, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon
- Bold: founding member
- Former members: None
- Membership pending: None

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* Information accurate as of 22 May 2012
Name
Community of Sahel Saharan States (CEN-SAD)

Headquarters
Tripoli, Libya

Web site
www.cen-sad.org

Short description
CEN-SAD works to strengthen peace, security, and stability, and achieve global economic and social development for its members. Among its objectives is the promotion of free trade and the free movement of people.

Membership
28 members (all UN member states)

Notes
When CEN-SAD was established in 1998 it had six members: Burkina Faso, Chad, Libya, Mali, Niger, and Sudan. By the end of 2002 its membership had tripled. Ten additional countries joined CEN-SAD during the years 2004–08, bringing its membership to 28. It includes many states outside the Sahel-Saharan region, including most notably the island states of São Tomé and Príncipe and Comoros. In 2009 Cape Verde was nominated to join CEN-SAD. It has enjoyed observer status since 2010.

Funding
All CEN-SAD members’ dues are assessed on an annual basis to contribute to the organization’s operating budget (which was USD 9.3 million for the organization’s 2009–2010 financial year). Libya provides additional support to the Secretary General above its assessed dues. CEN-SAD has received some EU support via AU.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
CEN-SAD members represent:
- 7 of 19 COMESA members (Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Kenya, Libya, and Sudan are COMESA members)
- 14 of 15 ECOWAS members (Cape Verde is not a CEN-SAD member)
- 5 of 8 IGAD members (Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Uganda are not CEN-SAD members)
- 4 of 5 UMA members (Algeria is not a CEN-SAD member)

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✉ Issagoffa@yahoo.com
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PoA-related activities
CEN-SAD undertook a peace operation in CAR from December 2001 to January 2003. (It subsequently authorized a mission along the Chad–Sudan border to help reduce tensions between these two CEN-SAD members and improve human security in Darfur, but this operation was never deployed.) CEN-SAD addressed the problem of the illicit trafficking of small arms at the 10th Meeting of Ministries in Charge of Security of CEN-SAD Member States in March 2009. It gave the Small Arms Survey an opportunity to formally address the Experts Meeting that preceded the ministerial conference. That said, most of CEN-SAD’s work has had an economic and development focus. In January 2012, however, CEN-SAD member Morocco announced that Rabat would take the lead in reorganizing CEN-SAD, with security themes such as terrorism, hostage taking, and illicit trafficking becoming prominent concerns. The CEN-SAD Executive Council convened in June to discuss ways forward. CEN-SAD expects that its members will formally adopt a revised treaty before the end of 2012 that will include explicit references to security promotion and tackling the proliferation of weapons.
PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
CEN-SAD is a member of the AU-Regions Steering Committee on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

Legally binding regional instruments
- None

Other official documents of interest
- None

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members*
- Benin, Burkina Faso, CAR, Chad, Comoros, Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia

Bold: founding member

Former members: None

Membership pending:
- Cape Verde

* Information accurate as of 22 June 2012
Name
Economic Community of Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL)

Headquarters
Gisenyi, Rwanda

Web site
http://41.186.5.236/index.html

Short description
The CEPGL was created to ensure the security of its members and their populations, to promote trade and the free movement of people and goods, and to cooperate closely on a wide range of socio-economic and politico-military concerns.

Membership
3 members (all UN member states)

Notes
The CEPGL was established in September 1976 by Burundi, Rwanda, and Zaire (now the DRC). It became dormant in 1994 due to the genocide in Rwanda and was effectively relaunched in 2007.

Funding
All three members are currently contributing to the organization and working toward addressing arrears. The EU, which allocated EUR 50 million, is by far the largest donor to the CEPGL. Other donors include France and UN Women. (Potential donors include the African Development Bank, Belgium, the Netherlands, UNECA, and the World Bank.)

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
CEPGL members represent:
- 2 of 10 CEEAC members (Rwanda is not a CEEAC member)
- 2 of 5 EAC members (the DRC is not an EAC member)
- 3 of 11 IGCLR members
- 3 of 15 RECSA members

PoA POC
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PoA-related activities
The 1976 convention establishing the CEPGL (which entered into force in 1978) explicitly covered many non-economic concerns, including ‘military’ matters (art. 2). Since the organization was resurrected in 2007 after a 14-year hiatus, it has explicitly focused on peace and security issues. Secretariat officials took part in the January 2008 Goma peace-building conference. Its members’ defence ministers and military chiefs have met annually since 2009. And the CEPGL convened a two-day workshop in November 2011 that brought together the three members’ demobilization commissions.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
UNECA’s regional office in Kigali routinely convenes meetings at which the CEPGL shares information with other regional organizations, including CEEAC, COMESA, and EAC.

Legally binding regional instruments
- Convention Establishing the Community of the Great Lakes Region Countries (1976)

Other official documents of interest
- None
PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members:
- Burundi
- DRC
- Rwanda

Bold: founding member

Former members:
None

Membership pending:
None

* Information accurate as of 2 July 2012
**Regional Organizations and the PoA**

**Name**
Indian Ocean Commission (COI)

**Headquarters**
Mauritius

**Web site**
www.ioconline.org

**Short description**
The COI is an inter-governmental organization aimed at promoting economic development in the areas of trade, tourism, and cultural solidarity, as well as sub-regional interests in international and regional forums, the preservation of natural resources and the environment, social development, regional stability, and good governance.

**Membership**
5 members
(all UN member states)

**Notes**
The five members of the COI established the organization in 1984.

**Funding**
Similar to previous years, in 2011 the operating budget of the COI General Secretariat, consisting of 27 permanent staff, was EUR 540,000, contributed by Réunion (France) (40 per cent), Madagascar (29 per cent), Mauritius (20 per cent), Comoros (6 per cent), and Seychelles (5 per cent). It has been managing multi-annual projects with a value of nearly EUR 83 million, mostly from external assistance and primarily for natural resource conservation. Between 2005 and 2011 the EU supported 68 per cent of the projects with a significant contribution from France (EUR 12 million) and additional contributions from Greece, China, the African Development Bank, the World Bank, the Commonwealth Bureau, and other international organizations: UNICEF, UNDP, UNAIDS, WFP, ITC, and OIF. The COI does not have a budget for regional security and thus its supportive actions in this area are limited. Several activities are undertaken through the partnership it established with UNODC in 2009.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
COI members represent:
- 4 of 19 COMESA members
- 3 of 15 SADC members
- 3 of 15 SARPCCO members

**PoA POC**
**Name:** Denise Azais-Vely
**Title:** Section Head, Human Development and Regional Security

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**PoA-related activities**
The COI identifies its main regional security concerns as terrorism, money laundering, maritime piracy, mercenaries, trafficking (most notably drugs, precious stones, and sexual tourism), and illegal fishing. Its main area of work centres on implementing its Regional Security Convention (2006). In 2010, as part of the IRCC, COI agreed a regional strategy and action plan on piracy and maritime security, which covers information exchange, cooperation, joint action, and capacity-building measures. One project may be a future EU-funded regional maritime security programme to be led by IGAD (2013, EUR 25 million). The project will strengthen national and regional capacities related to such areas as the arrest, transfer, holding, prosecution, and imprisonment of pirates; combating money laundering; and improving coordination and information exchange. Small arms trafficking is not seen as a particular threat; however, it is addressed by national coordinators (sometimes in collaboration with other members) on a per need basis within its maritime security and regional...
stability framework implemented with UNODC in a partnership that was cemented in 2009.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

The COI forms part of the overall Eastern and Southern Africa–Indian Ocean regional grouping with COMESA, EAC, and IGAD. These, in addition to SADC and the EU, comprise the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC), established in 2001. The IRCC also serves as the Secretariat for the implementation of the Regional Strategy and Action Plan on Piracy and Maritime Security for Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean.

**Legally binding regional instruments**


**Other official documents of interest**

- Joint Communiqué from the Eastern and Southern Africa–Indian Ocean Ministers and European Union High Representative at the 2nd Regional Ministerial Meeting on Piracy and Maritime Security in the Eastern and Southern Africa and Indian Ocean Region, Mauritius, 7 October 2010

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* Current members: Comoros, Réunion (France), Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles
  Bold: founding member

* Former members: None

* Membership pending: None

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* Information accurate as of 11 April 2012
Name
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

Headquarters
Lusaka, Zambia

Web site
www.comesa.int

Short description
COMESA works to attain a fully integrated, internationally competitive regional economic community. It promotes economic prosperity and peace to achieve political and social stability, and a high standard of living for its people.

Membership
19 members (all UN member states)

Notes
COMESA consisted of 21 member states when the 1993 treaty establishing the organization was ratified in 1994. It replaced the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA), which had entered into force in 1982. Five of these founding members have since left the organization and three others have joined, the most recent being Libya. In April 2012 South Sudan was preparing the relevant instruments to attain membership. (Somalia, a PTA member, lacked a functioning government when COMESA was established and it was therefore not eligible to join the new organization.)

Funding
COMESA receives its funding from its member states, with fees calculated on the basis of their relative wealth and population size. External partners fund the Programme on Peace and Security. The European Commission has been the largest external contributor, either directly or through the AU, with additional support from USAID and DFID, among others.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
COMESA members represent:
- 4 of 5 COI members (France is not a COMESA member)
- 4 of 5 EAC members (Tanzania is not a COMESA member)
- 6 of 8 IGAD members (Somalia and South Sudan are not COMESA members)
- 10 of 15 RECSA members (CAR, Congo, Somalia, South Sudan, and Tanzania are not COMESA members)

PoA POC
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PoA-related activities
Peace and security is central to the COMESA regional integration agenda and it is highlighted in the COMESA Treaty as one of its six broad objectives (Chapter Three, Article 3). COMESA actively turned its attention to addressing armed conflicts in 1999 when it established its Programme on Peace and Security, which became operational in 2000. The programme focuses on the economic dimensions of conflicts, including the illicit trade in small arms. Respective authority decisions have expanded the organization’s peace and security architecture to include various programmes and structures such as the Inter-Parliamentary Forum for COMESA, the Committee of Elders, and a body of accredited civil society and private sector organizations to assist COMESA in its preventive diplomacy and conflict resolution work. (As of April 2012 the Programme on Peace and Security had accredited 20 such bodies from ten COMESA member states.) In 2010 at the organization’s 14th Summit in Swaziland, COMESA members decided to task the Secretariat to undertake comprehensive and results oriented DDR
programme … craft a tailored strategy to address [small arms] proliferation … including a survey on Transport of SALW across borders … [and] consider both supply and demand side of SALW in its programme on Peace and Security’. Moreover, COMESA’s Post-conflict Reconstruction and Development Agenda covers numerous PoA-related activities (e.g., addressing legislation to control the arms trade).

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

COMESA, through the IRCC, collaborates with the COI, EAC, and IGAD on several programmes (including DDR concerns, brokering legislation, and cross-border cooperation to reduce armed violence and illicit small arms proliferation). RECSA supported COMESA’s Inter-Parliamentary Forum in 2006 on sensitization to the problem of illicit small arms proliferation and the importance of legislative oversight to counter this threat.

Legally binding regional instruments

- COMESA Treaty (1993)

Other official documents of interest


**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

- Current members*
  - Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, DRC, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
  - **Bold:** founding member

- Former members:
  - Angola, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania

- Membership pending:
  - South Sudan

* Information accurate as of 15 June 2012
Regional Organizations and the PoA

**Name**
East African Community (EAC)

**Headquarters**
Arusha, Tanzania

**Web site**
www.eac.int

**Short description**
EAC aims to widen and deepen cooperation among its members in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields for their mutual benefit.

**Membership**
5 members
(all UN member states)

**Notes**
EAC was first established in 1967. It was dissolved ten years later and re-established in 2000 after a new treaty was signed the previous year. Its original membership consisted of Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. Burundi and Rwanda joined in 2007. Sudan formally submitted an application to join in June 2011, but its submission was declined. South Sudan formally applied to become an EAC member in November 2011. Somalia formally applied in February 2012.

**Funding**
Each of the five EAC member states is assessed an equal contribution to the regular budget (currently USD 6.7 million each), which covered a little more than 50 per cent of the 2012 annual budget. As of 1 March 2012 all members had paid at least 50 per cent of their dues, with one having paid in full. The EU has contributed significant financial support for EAC’s PoA-related activities. German Technical Cooperation (GTZ, now GIZ) has also provided additional funding and technical support.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
EAC members represent:
- 4 of 19 COMESA members (Tanzania is not a COMESA member)
- 5 of 12 EAPCCO members
- 5 of 11 ICGLR members
- 2 of 8 IGAD members (Kenya and Uganda are IGAD members)
- 5 of 15 RECSA members

**PoA-related activities**
The 1999 treaty re-establishing the EAC recognized that the promotion of peace and security was a prerequisite for social and economic development (Article 124). The treaty entered into force in July 2000. In 2007 the EAC Council of Ministers elaborated a 15-goal regional security strategy that explicitly identified the need to ‘establish measures to combat proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons’ (Goal 12). Many other goals support PoA objectives. In October 2009 EAC convened a three-day Peace and Security Conference with dozens of government officials from numerous ministries, as well as parliamentarians and civil society representatives, to review the architecture and help attain the goals set forth. EAC has concentrated its PoA-related activities on civilian weapons recovery and surplus destruction, as well as stockpile management. By 2010 the five EAC members had, with EAC support, destroyed more than 12,000 illicit small arms in public ceremonies. With EU support, EAC has provided each member with one marking machine as well as a vehicle and other equipment. GIZ has provided funds for training on
how to use these systems. EU funds allowed EAC to procure 50 locally made armoury boxes for remote police and military outposts, while GIZ support has enabled EAC to furnish Tanzania with ten 20-foot containers to secure seized weapons. EAC, benefitting from commissioned research entrusted to civil society, has helped develop firearms legislation in Zanzibar and harmonize small arms legislation in Rwanda and Burundi. Moreover, EAC regularly convenes meetings with civil society organizations and government officials on small arms issues.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

EAC works with IGAD and COMESA as part of an Inter-Regional Coordinating Committee to implement funding provided by the EU Conflict Prevention and Management Resolution programme. EAC also works closely with RECSA and has provided funding to that organization to procure additional marking machines for its members, and used its own funds to support training for RECSA members that are not EAC members.

**Legally binding regional instruments**


**Other official documents of interest**

**Name**  
Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO)

**Headquarters**  
Nairobi, Kenya

**Web site**  
www.interpol.int/Public/ICPO/SRB/EAPCCO.asp

**Short description**  
EAPCCO was founded as a regional response to fight transnational and organized crime.

**Membership**  
12 members  
(all UN member states)

**Notes**  
EAPCCO was established in 1998. South Sudan was the most recent member to join, doing so in September 2011.

**Funding**  
Member states are to provide financial contributions; however, these are typically not sufficient to cover the operational costs of the organization. INTERPOL provides some in-kind support, including having the INTERPOL Regional Bureau in Nairobi serve as the EAPCCO Secretariat, as well as sponsoring training (in coordination with the EAPCCO Training Sub-committee) and providing equipment. EAPCCO has not received other donor financial assistance; however, it receives good cooperation and support from partners (see below).

**Overlap memberships with other ROs**  
EAPCCO members represent:
- 2 of 3 CEPGL members (Burundi and Rwanda are CEPGL members)
- 9 of 19 COMESA members
- 5 of 5 EAC members
- 6 of 11 ICGLR members
- 8 of 8 IGAD members
- 12 of 15 RECSA members (CAR, Congo, and DRC are not EAPCCO members)
- 2 of 15 SADC members

**PoA POC**  
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**PoA-related activities**  
EAPCCO supports the implementation of the Nairobi Protocol in those aspects related to Article 3 of its constitution, such as joint strategies for the management and joint monitoring of cross-border and related crimes, the management of criminal records, and training on crime and small arms-related matters. It investigates arms trafficking in cooperation with the INTERPOL Regional Bureau in Nairobi, Kenya. It receives good cooperation and support from partners such as RECSA in fighting firearms proliferation and the South African Institute for Security Studies (ISS) in dealing with environmental crimes and promoting gender balance, and also cooperates with UNODC and IGAD. In particular, EAPCCO has in the recent past undertaken the Mifugo Project (*mifugo* is the Kiswahili word for livestock), which focused on small arms from a cattle-rustling perspective and related criminal activities. In partnership with the ISS, EAPCCO spearheaded the implementation of the Protocol on the Prevention, Combating and Eradication of Cattle Rustling in Eastern Africa through the Mifugo Project (2008, not yet ratified). The protocol enhanced
uniform training, information exchange, and collaboration on joint operations in the cattle-rustling-prone areas of East Africa. However, the project closed due to lack of funding after the initial three-year period (2008–10) funded by Germany. A second project, known as Silaha Haramu, was to take place over six months in 2007. It was aimed at investigating arms trafficking in Kenya, South Africa, and Tanzania in partnership with organizations such as the Office of the Prosecutor of the ICC, RECSA, UNDP, and the WCO. This project, however, is not active and, according to EAPCCO, needs to be revived. EAPCCO is a steering committee member of the three-year EU-funded project to support the fight against the proliferation of firearms and explosive materials in Africa.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

EAPCCO collaborates with RECSA (through a memorandum of understanding with INTERPOL signed in 2010), which is the depository of the Nairobi Protocol, as well as EAC and IGAD. Inter-regional cooperation was profiled as an agenda item at the 13th EAPCCO Annual General Meeting (2011).

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- Agreement in Respect of Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in the Field of Crime Combating
- Agreement in the Field of Combating Terrorism

**Other official documents of interest**

- Briefing document, ‘Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO)’

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*Information accurate as of 25 April 2012*
Name
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Headquarters
Abuja, Nigeria

Web site
www.ecowas.int;  www.ecosap.ecowas.int/

Short description
ECOWAS’s objective is to promote cooperation and integration, including economic and monetary union, in order to stimulate growth and development in West Africa. It has also been mandated to promote peace and security in the region.

Membership
15 members (all UN member states)

Notes
Mauritania was one of the original members of the organization when it was founded in 1975 with the signing of the Treaty of Lagos, but it withdrew in 2000. Cape Verde is the only state to have joined ECOWAS after its formation, having done so in 1977.

Funding
ECOWAS member states finance ECOWAS through a community levy (0.5 per cent of customs revenue) and support from development partners, among which are mainly the EU, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and the African Development Bank. The budget covers the functions of the ECOWAS Unit and core activities. Partner funding primarily covers infrastructure, peace and security, agriculture, migration, etc. Activities have an annual budget based only on the plans for the next year. Over the period 2006–11 donors provided about USD 8.5 million to small arms projects implemented by ECOSAP, a small arms capacity-building programme of UNDP and other partners aimed at ECOWAS members. ECOSAP donors include UNDP, the EU, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Sweden, and Norway, as well as a financial contribution of USD 500,000 from ECOWAS.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
ECOWAS members represent:
- 14 of 28 CEN-SAD members
- 15 of 16 WAPCCO members.

PoA-related activities
ECOWAS is the only regional body to have adopted a moratorium on the import, export, and manufacture of small arms in its region. Established in 1998, the moratorium was planned for a renewable period of three years and was renewed in both 2001 and 2004. Poor monitoring and weak government structures, and the fact that the moratorium was not legally binding, undermined its effectiveness. As a result, states signed the ECOWAS Convention in 2006 and it entered into force on the ratification of the ninth member state in 2009. The ECOWAS Small Arms Unit was established to assist in the implementation and monitoring of the ECOWAS Convention. ECOSAP, which took the place of PCASED, the implementation unit put in place to support the 1998 small arms moratorium, is a five-year (2006–11) transitional capacity-building programme of UNDP and other development partners. It supports the small-arms-related activities of ECOWAS members. ECOSAP’s main activities have been to provide institutional capacity to national commissions on small arms and WAANSA and to conduct national surveys, develop national
action plans, and implement quick-impact activities. Having just completed its five-year mandate, the role, if any, of ECOSAP remains unknown (as of March 2012). On issues related to small arms, GIABA is a specialized agency of ECOWAS addressing anti-money laundering (AML) and the counter-financing of terrorism (CFT) and working with member states to ensure compliance with AML/CFT standards.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

ECOWAS is one of eight regional economic communities that are members of the AU Steering Committee on small arms, which was set up as part of the EU–AU continental Small Arms Project managed by RECSA on behalf of the AU. In June 2011 ECOWAS organized a meeting in Freetown, Sierra Leone, on Cross Border Cooperation and Cross Border Initiatives, at which delegations endorsed the MRU to serve as the sub-regional organization to coordinate ECOWAS cross-border programmes among MRU member states.

Legally binding regional instruments

- ECOWAS Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials (2006)

Other official documents of interest

- Declaration of a Moratorium on Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Light Weapons in West Africa (1998) (predecessor of the ECOWAS Convention)

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

- Current members:
  - Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo
- Bold: founding member
- Former members: Mauritania
- Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 22 March 2012
**Regional Organizations and the PoA**

**Regional Organizations and the PoA**

**Name**
International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)

**Headquarters**
Bujumbura, Burundi

**Web site**
www.icglr.org

**Short description**
ICGLR seeks to create conditions for security, stability, and sustainable development among its members by promoting regional cooperation towards these ends.

**Membership**
11 members (all UN member states)

**Notes**
ICGLR has retained its current membership since it was formally established in December 2006 when these 11 countries signed the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region (the Pact), which followed from the 2004 Dar es Salaam Declaration.

**Funding**
ICGLR receives more than 60 per cent of its total annual funding from its members’ assessed contributions (based on their relative economic capacities). The rest is provided by partners through either direct support to project activities and programmes or donations to the Secretariat. As of 31 December 2011 ICGLR members had paid 85 per cent of their assessed contributions. External support has come from Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, and parts of the UN system.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
ICGLR members represent:
- 5 of 10 CEEAC members (Angola, Burundi, CAR, Congo, and the DRC are CEEAC members)
- 7 of 19 COMESA members
- 5 of 5 EAC members
- 3 of 8 IGAD members
- 9 of 15 RECSA members

**PoA POC**
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**PoA-related activities**
The ICGLR December 2006 Pact, which entered into force in June 2008, includes 10 protocols, 4 programmes, and 33 projects. Within the Secretariat, the Peace and Security Programme has two full-time staff (one of whom is seconded from the Government of South Africa). This programme, which consists of seven projects, prioritizes countering small arms proliferation, disarming illegal armed groups and armed nomadic pastoralists, and promoting conflict prevention and peacebuilding initiatives. ICGLR does not implement projects, but coordinates the activities of member states and partners. For example, ICGLR has raised awareness among border communities on the dangers of small arms proliferation through mobilizing member states and partners to implement a disarmament and development programme and support for cross-border peace meetings in Karamoja. In cooperation with the South African Institute for Security Studies (ISSI), it has supplemented these efforts with research and analysis on previous disarmament efforts and causes of arms proliferation. In 2010–11 ICGLR provided technical support to
RECSA in the development of its Best Practice Guidelines on Practical Disarmament and helped secure ministerial-level endorsement for the guidelines. Regarding armed negative forces, ICGLR is engaged in ongoing political and diplomatic efforts to disarm the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA). In September 2011 ICGLR defence ministers decided to establish a Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre in Goma in the DRC to collate and assess information on the region’s armed groups. The centre is expected to be fully operational by the end of June 2012.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

Besides collaborating on the disarmament guidelines noted above, RECSA has provided ICGLR members with weapons-marking machines and associated training. ICGLR, EAC, IGAD, and RECSA are members of the Karamoja Regional Disarmament Committee. ICGLR is an active member of the AU Steering Committee on Small Arms (along with eight AU regional economic communities) tasked with developing a continental small arms strategy.

Legally binding regional instruments


Other official documents of interest

- Programme of Action for Peace and Security (2006)
- Project on Enhancing Capacities for Fighting Proliferation of SALW in the Great Lakes Region (2006)
Regional Organizations and the PoA

**Name**
Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

**Headquarters**
Djibouti, Djibouti

**Web site**
www.igad.org; www.cewarn.org; www.icpat.org

**Short description**
IGAD undertakes a full spectrum of initiatives intended to promote regional peace and prosperity, including regional trade and investment integration, food security, communal resilience to climate change, and coordinated infrastructure development.

**Membership**
8 members (all UN member states)

**Notes**
IGAD originated from the IGADD, which was formed in 1986 with six members: Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda. Eritrea joined IGADD in 1993. In 1996 the seven members decided to drop the first D for ‘Drought’ and to expand the organization’s mandate to also address peace and security. In 2007 Eritrea suspended its IGAD membership. South Sudan joined the organization in 2011.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
IGAD members represent:
- 6 of 19 COMESA members (Somalia and South Sudan are not COMESA members)
- 2 of 5 EAC members (Kenya and Uganda are EAC members)
- 8 of 12 EAPCCO members
- 8 of 15 RECSA members (Burundi, CAR, Congo, the DRC, Rwanda, Seychelles, and Tanzania are not IGAD members)

**Funding**
IGAD members contribute financially and with in-kind support to the operations of the organization’s headquarters in Djibouti and its programme offices in Addis Ababa. Additional support for the Addis-based Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN) and the IGAD Security Sector Program (ISSP) has come from Austria, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, and the United States, among others. Additional support for the Addis-based Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN) and the IGAD Security Sector Program (ISSP) has come from Austria, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, and the United States, among others.

**PoA POC**
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**PoA-related activities**
IGAD supported the dialogue and negotiations that led to the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement between Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement, and the extensive negotiations that led to the Somalia Transitional Federal Government. In 2002 IGAD members established CEWARN to strengthen regional stability by preventing conflict through the collection and dissemination of credible and timely information and analysis. Key to this effort is formally bringing together government and civil society actors. CEWARN’s efforts to tackle small arms proliferation focus mostly, but not exclusively, on demand factors. It supports robust community-led local early warning systems and local peace dividend projects. CEWARN’s initial focus was on conflicts between pastoralist communities and competition for scarce resources. Its new 2012–19 strategy expands significantly to focus on small arms and conflicts driven by factors that include environment/climate, natural resource competition, migration, ethnic and religious identity, electoral competition, and borders. Apart from CEWARN, the IGAD Capacity Building Program against Terrorism...
(ICPAT), established in 2006 and succeeded by the ISSP in 2011, promotes PoA-relevant commitments such as enhancing border security, promoting information exchange, and developing best practices to counter transnational crime, piracy, and terrorism. Indeed, ‘illicit arms control’ is one of the ISSP’s pillars.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
CEWARN works closely with the AU’s Conflict Early Warning System and is a constituent part of this aspect of the continental peace and security architecture. IGAD’s ISSP/ICPAT initiative has worked closely with EAPCCO on the training of law enforcement officials in the region.

Legally binding regional instruments

Other official documents of interest
- None

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members*
- Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda

Bold: founding member
Former members: None
Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 14 June 2012
**Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook**

**Name**
Mano River Union (MRU)

**Headquarters**
Freetown, Sierra Leone

**Web site**
www.manoriveruniononline.org

**Short description**
The MRU fosters economic cooperation among its members in addition to focusing on the peace, security, and stability of its member states.

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<th>Membership</th>
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<td>4 members</td>
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<td>(all UN member states)</td>
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| Notes |
| The MRU was initially established in 1973 with Sierra Leone and Liberia as the founding members. Guinea joined in 1980 and Côte d’Ivoire in 2008. |

| Funding |
| Member states pay yearly contributions to the operational costs of the Secretariat. The Secretariat, which is undertaking a restructuring and revitalization process (March 2012), coordinates projects and programmes supported by development partners. The main financiers include the AfDB, World Bank, African Capacity-Building Foundation, and UN Food and Agricultural Foundation. |

| Overlapping memberships with other ROs |
| MRU members represent: |
| - 4 of 54 AU members |
| - 4 of 28 CEN-SAD members |
| - 4 of 15 ECOWAS members |
| - 4 of 16 WAPCCO members |

| PoA POC |
| Name: Dr Saran Daraba Kaba |
| Title: Secretary-General |
| +232-76-942-881  sg@manoriveruniononline.org |

**PoA-related activities**
At least one member of the MRU has been involved in some level of conflict for the last 20 years, with such instabilities hindering its progress. In 2000 members agreed on the 15th Protocol to the MRU Declaration entitled ‘Cooperation on Defence, Security, Internal Affairs, and Foreign Affairs’, which gives the MRU Secretariat an inter-governmental role in conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The protocol calls for the creation of a joint security committee and other mechanisms, such as one for early warning, and a technical committee to monitor and investigate border security and related issues. Several attempts to implement the protocol have been made, most recently with a series of meetings held in November 2011 that included the subject of small arms. In January 2012 member states adopted a framework for cross-border cooperation. In March 2012 the Secretariat began establishing Joint Border Security and Confidence Building Units in five identified borders. These units will hold monthly meetings and report to the MRU Secretariat. In March 2012 the Joint Border Security and Confidence Building Unit comprising...
border security personnel and community members (which includes civil society members) of Sierra Leone and Guinea was established. The chiefs of defence staff endorsed an operational plan on peace and security at their meeting in Abidjan in March 2012. Members approved the establishment of the Peace and Security Unit within the Secretariat. The AfDB is supporting the Secretariat in a capacity-building programme to develop terms of reference for the Peace and Security Unit and member states will second security officers on a rotational basis to run the unit.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

In June 2011 ECOWAS organized a meeting in Freetown on Cross Border Cooperation and Cross Border Initiatives, where delegations endorsed the MRU to serve as the sub-regional organization to coordinate ECOWAS cross-border programmes among its MRU member states.

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- None

**Other official documents of interest**

Regional Organizations and the PoA

Name
Regional Centre on Small Arms in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States (RECSA)

Headquarters
Nairobi, Kenya

Web site
www.recsasec.org

Short description
RECSA’s principle objective is to ensure the efficient and effective implementation of the Nairobi Declaration and Nairobi Protocol, which relate to the prevention, control, and reduction of illicit small arms.

Membership
15 members (all UN member states)

Notes
RECSA, created in 2005, has its origins with the Nairobi Declaration of March 2000, and the Nairobi Secretariat was created to assist its ten signatories to attain their objectives. Five countries have since joined: Seychelles (2004), Somalia (2005), Congo (2009), CAR (2011), and South Sudan (2011).

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
RECSA members represent:
- 10 of 19 COMESA members (CAR, Congo, Somalia, South Sudan, and Tanzania are not COMESA members)
- 5 of 5 EAC members
- 12 of 12 EAPCCO members
- 9 of 11 ICGLR members (Angola and Zambia are not RECSA members)
- 8 of 8 IGAD members

Funding
Most of RECSA’s funding comes from external donors, in particular (but not limited to) the EU, Japan, and the United States. For the year ending June 2010 RECSA members contributed less than 3 per cent of the organization’s operating funds, with most dues-paying members being in arrears.

PoA-related activities
In March 2000 ten RECSA founding members signed the Nairobi Declaration to address the problems associated with the illicit trade in small arms in their region. In April 2004 these countries, together with the Seychelles, supplemented this political document with a legally binding document known as the Nairobi Protocol (which entered into force in May 2006). The Nairobi Declaration and Nairobi Protocol cover many of the same objectives covered within the PoA and several RECSA members’ NFPs also serve as NFPs for the PoA. Although the Nairobi Protocol does not specifically call for national action plans, RECSA has assisted numerous members to develop them (as part of its wide-ranging Best Practice Guidelines) to help meet their commitments under both the Nairobi Protocol and the PoA. It has also convened a series of regional meetings (2005–09) to help its members harmonize their national small arms legislation with the objectives laid out under the Nairobi Protocol. RECSA has convened regional meetings to help counter the threat from MANPADS
proliferation (in 2008) and to develop members’ capacity to control small-arms-brokering activities (in 2009). Moreover, RECSA has raised funds to procure machines to mark members’ small arms and trained members in how to use them. RECSA has routinely created space for civil society organizations to share their expertise with government officials.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

RECSA’s cooperation with other ROs is far ranging and long-standing. For example, it has provided marking machines and training on their use to the three ICGLR members that at the time were not RECSA members (although two have now joined RECSA). It has also shared lessons learned in this area with ECOWAS, the OAS, and SADC, and has provided machines to four ECOWAS members.

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- Nairobi Protocol for the Prevention, Control and Reduction of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa and Bordering States (2004)

**Other official documents of interest**

- Nairobi Declaration on the Problem of the Proliferation of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa (2000)
- Best Practice Guidelines on the Implementation of the Nairobi Declaration and Nairobi Protocol (2005); Regional Harmonization of Legislation on Firearms and Ammunition (2005); and Practical Disarmament (2011)
Regional Organizations and the PoA

Name
Southern African Development Community (SADC)

Headquarters
Gaborone, Botswana

Web site
www.sadc.int

Short description
SADC’s mission is ‘to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development through efficient productive systems, deeper co-operation and integration, good governance, and durable peace and security’.

Membership
15 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
Nine states formed the Southern African Development Coordination Conference in 1980 with the adoption of the Lusaka Declaration. The nine founding members plus the newly independent Namibia signed the SADC Treaty and Declaration in 1992. The remaining five states joined SADC in the 1990s, with Seychelles leaving in 2004 and rejoining in 2008. As of May 2012, Madagascar remained suspended (which began in 2008).

Funding
Member states provide equal financial contributions to SADC that are meant to cover the organization’s administrative arrangements; however, there are limitations due to inadequate resources and staffing provided by members. SADC is to mobilize resources for SARCCO, which is an affiliated SADC structure (see SARCCO entry) responsible for coordinating and implementing SADC’s small arms activities. However, these have been primarily supported and administered by the ISS and other partners.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
SADC members represent:
- 15 of 54 AU members
- 1 of 3 CEPGL members (the DRC is a CEPGL member)
- 8 of 19 COMESA members
- 4 of 11 ICGLR members
- 3 of 15 RECSA members
- 15 of 15 SARCCO members

PoA POC
Name: Ezekiel Senti
Title: Legal Adviser, Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation

PoA-related activities
Agreed in 2001, the SADC Protocol on the Control of Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials entered into force on November 2004. It was the first African regional small arms agreement to become legally binding. The Regional Coordinating Committee was established under the auspices of SARCCO in 2007. The committee is composed of NFPs and is responsible for implementing the SADC Protocol (see SARCCO entry). With respect to peace support operations, SADC established the Organ for Politics, Defence and Security in 1996, under which SADC members have undertaken peacekeeping training and other capacity-building initiatives. For instance, SADCPOL is a regional pool of police officers who can be deployed in peace support operations. Member states second officers to SADCPOL for three years. SADCPOL also coordinates with SARCCO. In 2008 SADC parliamentarians met at a two-day conference to discuss parliamentary oversight of the security sector, focusing in particular on the subject of small arms.
PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

SADC is a member of the AU-Regions Steering Committee on Small Arms. SADCPOL often coordinates with the APF. It additionally collaborates with RECSA. In 2010 cooperation between SADC and EAC led to shared lessons learned and best practices in the areas of stockpile management and destruction.

Legally binding regional instruments
- SADC Protocol on the Control of Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials (August 2001)

Other official documents of interest
- SADC Statement at the Fourth Biennial Meeting of States to the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (2010)

* Information accurate as of 17 May 2012
Name  
Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (SARPCCO)

Headquarters  
Harare, Zimbabwe

Web site  
www.sarpcco.org

Short description  
An affiliated structure of SADC and based in the INTERPOL Regional Bureau, SARPCCO retains its own policy and executive structures to promote cooperation among its members and foster joint strategies for the management of all forms of cross-border and related crimes, to make recommendations to governments for effective policing, and to formulate systematic regional training policies and strategies.

Membership  
15 members (all UN member states)

Notes  
The police chiefs of 11 countries founded SARPCCO in 1995. Its membership is restricted to SADC member states. The Seychelles joined automatically as a result of its integration into SADC in 2006. The DRC applied to SARPCCO in 2005 and began attending annual general meetings in 2007. Madagascar is suspended from SADC and in principle is suspended from SARPCCO. However, SARPCCO has not released an official statement on the matter although it does not attend.

Funding  
INTERPOL provides in-kind support to SARPCCO in the form of training and equipment, and by hosting it at its Regional Bureau in Harare. Small arms activities depend on external funding (in particular from the ISS and other cooperating partners) and the partners manage the funding aspects. GIZ (Germany) Norway, the Netherlands, Sweden and United States have been important contributors.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs  
SARPCCO members represent:

- 1 of 3 CEPGL members (the DRC is a CEPGL member)
- 8 of 19 COMESA members
- 4 of 11 ICGLR members
- 3 of 15 RECSA members
- 15 of 15 SADC members

PoA-related activities  
SARPCCO is the operational arm of SADC for the implementation of the latter’s Firearms Protocol. It promotes the joint monitoring of borders, information sharing, and the management of criminal records on small arms. It has a dedicated desk officer responsible for assisting states with the implementation of the Firearms Protocol. At its 12th Annual General Meeting (2007), SARPCCO established the Regional Coordinating Committee (RCC) on small arms, which meets at least twice a year, and adopts and monitors two-year action plans for implementing the Firearms Protocol. The 2010–12 action plan includes implementing courses, workshops, and seminars on various issues such as law enforcement, train-the-trainers, database management, brokering, and marking; marking state and civilian firearms; undertaking regional dialogue on MANPADS and initiating best practice guidelines; establishing public awareness and education programmes; and continuing with cross-border operations. One of its leading achievements includes the development of SOPs for the national implementation of the Firearms Protocol in 2008, established with the support of the ISS. By 2012 approximately 46,000 small arms
arms and close to 25 million rounds of ammunition had been collected and destroyed. Joint operations have thus far taken place with Angola, Mozambique, and, more recently, Namibia. SARPCCO has assisted states to reform and harmonize firearms legislation. The United States (through the ISS and SARPCCO) has provided marking machines and capacity building. A three-week training course for police officials in firearms control, firearms identification, and crime scene investigation was piloted in South Africa in 2010 and the first official course followed in June 2012 in Zimbabwe.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**
SARPCCO is an affiliated structure of SADC. RECSA and SARPCCO became official cooperating partners after the RCC made this recommendation at its 8th Meeting (2011). RECSA, in its capacity as the Secretariat for the AU Steering Committee on Small Arms and Light Weapons, has agreed to assist Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe to develop their small arms National Action Plans.

**Legally binding regional instruments**
- SADC Protocol on the Control of Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials (2001)

**Other official documents of interest**
- SARPCCO Firearm Public Awareness and Education Strategy (2011)

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**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

*Current members*:
- Angola
- Botswana
- DRC
- Lesotho
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Seychelles
- South Africa
- Swaziland
- Tanzania
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

*Bold: founding member*

*Former members*: None

*Membership pending*: None

*Information accurate as of 16 May 2012*
Name
Arab Maghreb Union (UMA)

Headquarters
Rabat, Morocco

Web site
www.maghrebarabe.org

Short description
UMA is a trade agreement aimed at achieving economic development, political unity, and regional peace in North Africa.

Membership
5 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
UMA was established in 1989 by Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, and Tunisia. Given regional rivalries, UMA has never been very active. Recent political changes in the region and within its members suggest that it may become more active.

Funding
The UMA annual budget is slightly below USD 2.5 million. In principle, member states contribute equally to the budget.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
UMA members represent:
- 4 of 54 AU members (Morocco is not an AU member)
- 4 of 28 CEN-SAD members (Algeria is not a CEN-SAD member)
- 5 of 22 LAS members
- 1 of 16 WAPCCO members (Mauritania is a WAPCCO member)

PoA-related activities
The objectives of the UMA Treaty (1989) are primarily economic. Initially, member states envisaged UMA as a viable forum for negotiating peace, enhancing security and cooperation, and resolving existing conflicts and tensions among signatory states. In 1991 UMA created an informal body called the Council of Common Defence; however since 1994 the union has never convened at heads of state level. UMA is not active on small arms-related issues and has declined to participate in various meetings on this issue organized by the AU. It nevertheless attended a regional seminar on the Arms Trade Treaty in 2011. In February 2012 UMA foreign ministers held a meeting in Rabat at which member states agreed to hold a UMA summit by the end of the year, which represented a significant step towards the reactivation of the union. At the Rabat meeting members recognized the need to boost cooperation in order to fight terrorism and trans-border organized crime. They also agreed to hold a meeting in Algiers to discuss these points, thus demonstrating at some level a renewed interest in addressing security at the regional level.
PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

UMA is a member of the AU-RECs Steering Committee.

Legally binding regional instruments

Other official documents of interest
- None

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members:
- Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia

Bold: founding member

Former members: None

Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 13 June 2012
Name
West African Police Chiefs Committee (WAPCCO)

Headquarters
Abuja, Nigeria

Web site
N/A

Short description
WAPCCO, a specialized ECOWAS institution, is tasked with identifying trends and patterns of crime, organizing regional conferences and meetings, establishing and maintaining contacts with different law enforcement authorities, and assisting in the sharing of best practices.

Membership
16 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
All of the members are also ECOWAS members. Mauritania, however, is a member of WAPCCO, but left ECOWAS in 2000.

Funding
ECOWAS has financed WAPCCO’s statutory meetings since 2008. Members contribute to the operations they participate in. The INTERPOL Regional Bureau typically provides in-kind and technical support.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
WAPCCO members represent:
- 16 of 54 AU members
- 15 of 28 CEN-SAD members
- 15 of 15 ECOWAS members

PoA POC
Name: Changes annually
Title: Chief of police of the country hosting the ECOWAS presidency

PoA-related activities
The ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Strategy (2008) refers to ECOWAS’s commitment to transfer expertise and financial support to WAPCCO and other security networks for the coordination of information sharing, cooperation, and networking among the police, gendarmerie, intelligence services, and other security agencies. Efforts have emerged to transform it into an autonomous institution. With respect to small arms, some small operations have been conducted, but none of significant size. The police chiefs of ECOWAS member states, as well as ECOWAS Commission officials and representatives of INTERPOL, met for a three-day meeting of Technical Sub-committees in March 2012. The meeting, which will feed into the WAPCCO General Assembly planned for July 2012, called for operations on small arms, piracy, and terrorism, among other regional security issues (notably trafficking of humans and drugs, and vehicle theft). In particular, Niger and Nigeria have been selected to support an anti-crime operation on small arms. Through the INTERPOL Regional Bureau in Côte d’Ivoire,
WAPCCO has had extended access to INTERPOL databases. The Regional Bureau has also provided training, and supports the preparation of joint operations, meetings of the technical sub-committees on operations, and the harmonization of legislation. The Regional Bureau, however, has closed its office in Côte d’Ivoire due to post-election violence in 2011. Secretariat support has thus been redirected to the INTERPOL General Secretariat in Lyon, France, until the office reopens (anticipated June 2012).

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
The ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework (2008) sets out ECOWAS support for WAPCCO. The March 2012 Technical Sub-committee meeting called for a joint CCPAC/WAPCCO Technical Sub-committee meeting to take place with a view to laying the groundwork for the signing of a cooperation agreement between the two regions.

Legally binding regional instruments
- Convention Entre les Etats Membres Du Comite des Chefs de Police de L’Afrique Centrale en Matiere de Lutte Contre le Terrorisme (2005)

Other official documents of interest
- ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework, Regulation MSC/REG. 1/01/08 (2008)

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members*
Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo

Bold: founding member

Former members: None

Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 31 May 2012
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**Name**
Police Community of the Americas (AMERIPOL)

**Headquarters**
Bogota, Colombia

**Web site**
www.comunidadameripol.org

**Short description**
AMERIPOL’s mandate is to promote technical and scientific cooperation, exchange information and intelligence regarding organized crime, support criminal investigations and provide judicial assistance, and conduct and support training.

**Membership**
24 members (21 are UN member states)

**Notes**
AMERIPOL membership is made up of police corps, with Costa Rica and Panama each represented by two corps. The Police of Puerto Rico and the United States—through its Drug Enforcement Agency—each have their own respective membership. AMERIPOL was formed on 14 November 2007 in Bogota, Colombia, with an original membership of 18 police corps. Fifteen national, regional, and international police entities are observers to AMERIPOL, including from Germany, Canada, Italy, and Spain, as well as the OAS and INTERPOL, among others.

**Funding**
According to Article 23 of the AMERIPOL Statute, member countries are to finance the organization. All financial contributions and technical assistance to AMERIPOL are voluntary. Colombia, where the AMERIPOL Secretariat is based, assumes the infrastructural costs of hosting AMERIPOL headquarters. Member states can designate (and are responsible for financing the stay of) permanent or temporary liaison officers to the Executive Secretariat. Costs of joint operations and initiatives are covered by the police forces involved.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
AMERIPOL members represent:
- 4 of 21 APEC members
- 2 of 15 CARICOM members
- 21 of 35 OAS members
- 6 of 7 SICA members

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**PoA POC**
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Phone: +57-320-297-6126
Email: secretaria-ejecutiva@comunidadameripol.org

**PoA-related activities**
AMERIPOL promotes cooperation among police organizations, including conducting and improving the training of police officers, developing effective exchanges of information, and coordinating legal assistance. Its particular focus is on organized transnational crime; however, it does not presently have any projects specific to small arms. Each member has a national unit on police technical-scientific cooperation, information exchange, criminal investigation and judicial assistance, and training and doctrine, which facilitates and promotes cooperation.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**
AMERIPOL and the OAS signed a cooperation agreement in June 2011. The agreement aims to develop initiatives for strengthening the capacities of the regional institutions responsible for ensuring public security and to establish a framework for inter-institutional cooperation through the design and implementation of technical assistance initiatives and exchanges of experiences.
Legally binding regional instruments
- None

Other official documents of interest
- AMERIPOL Statute, signed on 14 November 2007

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members*
- Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, United States, Uruguay

Former members: None

Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 12 April 2012
COMUNIDAD ANDINA

Name
Andean Community (CAN)

Headquarters
Lima, Peru

Web site

Short description
CAN is a subregional organization whose objective is to promote, through economic and social cooperation, sustainable and harmonious development of its member states.

Membership
4 members (all UN member states)

Notes
In 1969 Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru established the Andean Pact through the Cartagena Agreement. The Protocol of Trujillo reformed the institutional structure and it was renamed the Andean Community (1996). Venezuela had been a member from 1973 and withdrew in 2006. Chile withdrew in 1976 and became an associate in 2006. Other associate members include Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Mexico, Panama, and Spain are observer states.

Funding
CAN determines financial contributions in percentages according to each country’s capacity to pay. It also receives support from external donors. The EU has been funding CAN since the 1970s. Spain is currently funding a project to combat organized crime, including illicit trade in small arms.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
CAN members represent:
- 1 of 21 APEC members (Peru is an APEC member)
- 4 of 35 OAS members
- 4 of 12 UNASUR members

PoA POC
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Title: Desk Officer for Political, Anti-corruption, and Anti-drugs Issues, External Relations and Politics
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PoA-related activities
The Lima Commitment: Andean Charter for Peace and Security (2002) calls in its Chapter VIII for the establishment of a cooperation plan to fight trafficking in illegal weapons. In 2003 CAN enacted Decision 552: The Andean Plan to Prevent, Fight and Eradicate Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, which was the first legally binding instrument at the sub-regional level to be derived from the PoA. Its primary objective is to strengthen the capacity of its members to control the manufacture, trade, transportation, possession, concealment, usurpation, carrying, and use of such weapons, as well as to identify, confiscate, and possibly destroy them. The plan creates specific mechanisms and procedures at the national, sub-regional, and international levels, and requires national POCs and coordination committees to be established. With support from Spain CAN has started a three-year project entitled Justice and Combating Crime in the Andean Community. The project aims...
to reinforce cooperation and assistance to combat organized crime, including illegal trade in small arms. It also provides training for judges, prosecutors, and police from national authorities. In collaboration with UNLIREC, meetings, workshops, and specialized seminars are regularly held—including participation of CSOs—to share information on best practices and lessons learned in relation to small arms trafficking, and to promote the harmonization of laws, common practices, and tools to prevent trafficking across borders.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

CAN has a cooperation agreement with MERCOSUR. CAN organized a workshop on arms transfer in cooperation with the OAS (and UNLIREC).

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- The Andean Plan to Prevent, Fight and Eradicate Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects (Decision 552) (2003)

**Other official documents of interest**

- Revista de la integración: Apuntando por la paz y seguridad en la Comunidad Andina, CAN General Secretariat publication (2009)

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* Information accurate as of 26 June 2012
Name
Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

Headquarters
Georgetown, Guyana

Web site
www.caricom.org; www.caricomimpacs.org

Short description
CARICOM strives to improve standards of living and work among its members through co-ordinated and sustained economic development, as well as helping its members coordinate their foreign, economic, and crime and security policies.

Membership
15 members (14 are UN member states)

Notes
CARICOM consisted of four countries at its creation in August 1973: Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago. Its membership trebled within a year. Three additional countries became members between 1983 and 2002, bringing the total to 15. (Although Cuba and the Dominican Republic are not CARICOM members, Spanish is an official CARICOM language.) One British Overseas Territory (BOT) in the Caribbean—Montserrat—is a full CARICOM member. The five other Caribbean BOTs are CARICOM associate members.

Funding
CARICOM’s annual core budget in 2011 was about USD 15 million, of which external donors provided roughly 60 per cent. The CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS) receives most of its funding from its members’ assessed contributions.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
CARICOM members represent:
- 14 of 35 OAS members (Montserrat is not an OAS member)
- 1 of 7 SICA members (Belize is a SICA member)
- 2 of 12 UNASUR members (Guyana and Suriname are UNASUR members)

PoA POC
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PoA-related activities
In 2001 CARICOM established the Task Force on Crime and Security to examine the major causes of crime. A major outcome of its work was a proposal to create a regional framework to effectively tackle crime and security challenges. The result was the establishment of IMPACS in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, in 2006. The agency has since created several ambitious offices and initiatives. It is developing a Regional Integrated Ballistic Information Network (RIBIN) to provide its members’ security agencies with information to enable them to track small arms and ammunition used in crimes. It held an initial seminar for ballistics experts and firearms examiners in January 2009. The IMPACS Regional Intelligence Fusion Centre provides information and analysis to CARICOM members to help address crime and the illicit weapons trade. The IMPACS Joint Regional Communication Centre is presently establishing the Advanced Cargo Information System (ACIS) in seven CARICOM members to help identify and interdict high-risk shipping containers. Funding from its members has enabled IMPACS to establish and house a Secre-
tariat, as well as recruit and train qualified staff. (As of April 2012 more than 70 full-time staff work in Port of Spain.) Members can now share security-related information more freely (since an MoU on the matter was signed in 2006). But many IMPACS initiatives lack the financial resources required to become operational as envisioned. The agency has nevertheless had several tangible successes. For example, it has worked with its members to ensure all have identified small arms NPPs in support of the PoA. It has helped build political will at the highest government levels for supporting the PoA, and has worked with regional and international NGOs to educate civil society, undertake small arms research, and train government officials (e.g. on small arms marking machines). Also, as of April 2012 IMPACS had helped train more than 200 border security officials and promoted stockpile management best practices among its members.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

IMPACS has promoted an OAS initiative (among both CARICOM members and external donors) to obtain small arms marking machines and associated training.

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- Treaty on Security Assistance among CARICOM Member States (2006)

**Other official documents of interest**

- CARICOM Declaration on Small Arms (2011)
### Name
Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR)

### Headquarters
Montevideo, Uruguay

### Web site
www.mercosur.int

### Short description
MERCOSUR is an economic and political agreement aimed at promoting free trade and the fluid movement of goods, people, and currency among its members.

### Membership
4 members (all UN member states)

### Funding
Since MERCOSUR focuses primarily on trade agreements, it does not have a substantive budget; however, member states approved the creation of the Fund for Structural Convergence. In force for the 2006–15 period, this fund amounts to USD 100 million per year. Brazil contributes 70 per cent, Argentina 27 per cent, Uruguay 2 per cent, and Paraguay 1 per cent. The EU also provides MERCOSUR with funding, primarily to support regional integration.

### Overlapping memberships with other ROs
MERCOSUR members represent:
- 4 of 35 OAS members
- 4 of 12 UNASUR members

### Notes
MERCOSUR was founded in 1991 by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Venezuela requested a full membership in 2006 and was awaiting the approval of Paraguay. As Paraguay has been suspended since 29 June 2012, Venezuela will become a full member as of 31 July 2012. Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru are associate members; i.e., they can join free-trade agreements and participate actively in some areas of work, but remain outside the bloc’s customs union. Mexico is an observer.

### PoA POC
Name: Changes every six months
Title: National PoA POC of the country hosting the MERCOSUR Presidency

### PoA-related activities
MERCOSUR addresses small arms and security matters at the inter-governmental level only. In 1998 it issued the Southern Cone Presidential Declaration on Combating the Illicit Manufacture and Trafficking in Firearms, which led to the development of the MERCOSUR Joint Register Mechanism later that year. These marked the first sub-regional instruments to address small arms in the Americas. As part of the mechanism’s implementation, members developed the Security Information Exchange System, which is a registry to share information regarding the purchase, sale, import, and export of firearms, and which links the databases of MERCOSUR security bodies. In 2001 MERCOSUR and its associated members established the Working Group on Firearms, whose objectives are to increase controls on private security agencies; introduce legislation on stockpile controls at the national and regional levels; raise awareness of and public support for small arms issues; and establish convergent regional security policies to facilitate information sharing.
and cooperation. An MoU on the manufacture and illicit trafficking of firearms was adopted in 2004 to tackle the problem of illicit cross-border trafficking and help promote cooperation among national law enforcement authorities. MERCOSUR also conducts technical meetings between police and security forces on the problem of illicit trafficking in firearms to exchange information and share experiences.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**
In 2001 CAN, MERCOSUR, Guyana, and Suriname established the South American Cooperation and Peace Zone. MERCOSUR also meets periodically with the OAS.

**Legally binding regional instruments**
- CMC Decision No. 7/98: Joint Register Mechanism of Consumers and Sellers of Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials for MERCOSUR (1998)

**Other official documents of interest**
- Southern Cone Presidential Declaration on Combating the Illicit Manufacture and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition and Related Materials (1998)
Name
Organization of American States (OAS)

Headquarters
Washington, DC, United States

Web site
www.oas.org; www.oas.org/dsp

Short description
The OAS has a broad mandate, with its charter promoting peace and security with an emphasis on representative democracy (with ‘due respect for the principle of non-intervention’).

Membership
35 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
The OAS consisted of 21 member states when it was created in 1948: all the independent UN member states from the hemisphere except Canada. Fourteen additional countries joined between 1962 and 1991 (with Canada joining in 1990). The OAS suspended Cuba from 1962 to 2009, but Cuba has yet to re-engage in OAS activities. Most recently, Honduras was suspended between July 2009 and June 2011. More than 60 countries from Africa, Asia, Europe, and Oceania participate in OAS activities and contribute to its programmes as permanent observers.

Funding
Some 95 per cent of the regular budget comes from dues from six OAS members: the United States, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, and Venezuela (listed from largest to smallest contribution). Washington’s assessment is by far the largest: just under 60 per cent of the total. Voluntary funding for small-arms-related projects referenced below comes primarily from the United States and Spain.

PoA-related activities
The Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA), which OAS member states approved in 1997, is of particular relevance to the PoA. A legally binding treaty that entered into force in 1998, CIFTA seeks to prevent, combat, and eradicate firearms trafficking, as well as promote and facilitate cooperation and the exchange of information in this regard. As of May 2012, 30 OAS members had ratified CIFTA (i.e. all but Canada, Cuba, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG), and the United States). The OAS has also developed model legislation and regulations to assist member states in the implementation of CIFTA’s various provisions. The Department of Public Security, created in 2005 during a restructuring of the OAS General Secretariat, addresses various security concerns within the region, including firearms trafficking. The department provides technical secretariat services to the CIFTA process and oversees technical assistance initiatives to facilitate the implementation of the convention. In the past five years the department...
has undertaken a series of projects—all voluntarily funded—to strengthen the national capacity of member states in the areas of legislative development, stockpile management and destruction, and firearms marking. As of May 2012 these OAS initiatives—valued at some USD 3 million—supported activities in 23 OAS member states.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

The OAS POC meets periodically, but not in a scheduled manner, with colleagues from CAN, CARICOM, MERCOSUR, SICA, and UNASUR. The OAS received a formal briefing from RECSA on its lessons learned with regard to firearms marking in preparation for its own similar undertaking.

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- Inter-American Convention Against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials (CIFTA) (1997)

**Other official documents of interest**

- Declaration of Bogota on the Functioning and Application of CIFTA (2004)
- Methodology for the Development of Model Legislation for the Purpose of Facilitating the Effective Application of CIFTA (2005)
- Six model regulations, legislation (and commentaries) on: (1) International Movement (2003); (2) Brokers (2003); (3) Marking and Tracing (2007); (4) Export Controls (2008); (5) Illicit Manufacturing (2008); (6) Confiscation and Forfeiture (2010); and (7) Controlled Delivery (2012)
- Tlatelolco Commitment (2008)
Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook

Name
Central American Integration System (SICA)

Headquarters
San Salvador, El Salvador

Web site
www.sica.int; www.casac-uer.org

Short description
SICA is an institutional framework designed to drive the eventual economic, social, and political integration of Central America.

Membership
7 members (all UN member states)

Notes
SICA succeeded ODECA when its six members amended the 1962 charter with the signing of the Tegucigalpa Protocol in 1991. Belize joined in 2000 as a full member and the Dominican Republic as an associate member in 2004. Regional observers include Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Peru. Extra-regional observers are Australia, China, Germany, Italy, Japan, and Spain.

Funding
The SICA General Secretariat is financed through equal annual contributions from its members. UNDP, the EU, Sweden, Spain, and Austria have financed the work of CASAC (see below).

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
SICA members represent:
- 1 of 15 CARICOM members (Belize is a CARICOM member)
- 7 of 35 OAS members

PoA POC
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Fax: +503-2248-8899

PoA-related activities
SICA adopted the Code of Conduct on Arms Transfer in 2005. Two years later (2007) it adopted the Central American Security Strategy that included, among other things, crime reduction, violence prevention, rehabilitation, and reintegration. The strategy was revised in 2011, setting out common objectives in areas that included arms control, crime and violence prevention (related to gangs, youth violence, and gender-based violence, among many more), and strengthening the institutions of law enforcement. In order to implement the initial strategy, SICA launched—with UNDP financial and technical support—the Central American Programme on Small Arms Control (CASAC) in Managua, Nicaragua. Since then CASAC has provided technical assistance on national legislation to Panama, Honduras, and Guatemala; promoted the creation of multidisciplinary national commissions on small arms; assisted in the establishment of commissions in Costa Rica and Nicaragua; and supported the early process of developing national commissions in Belize and Panama. It provides capacity building in designing, implementing, and evaluating initiatives.
for the destruction of arms in Central America. CASAC notably supported the destruction of thousands of weapons in Nicaragua and Costa Rica in 2009. The EU has also funded a three-year project (2009–11) through CASAC that aims to: (1) support national authorities in the implementation of arms control systems; (2) foster cross-border cooperation with enhanced registration and information exchanges; and (3) promote the strengthening of civil society. A second phase is scheduled for 2012–14. CASAC regularly attends and holds seminars/training on PoA-related issues with UNDP, UNLIREC, states, and CSOs.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
CASAC has coordinated PoA-related projects with the OAS. It regularly exchanges information and experiences with CAN, MERCOSUR, and some CARICOM countries.

Legally binding regional instruments
- Charter of the Organization of Central American States (ODCA) – Second Charter ("Carta de San Salvador") (1962)
- Tegucigalpa Protocol to the Charter of the Organization of Central American States (ODECA) (1991)

Other official documents of interest
- Code of Conduct of Central American States on the Transfer of Arms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materiel (2005)
- Reviewed Central American Security Strategy (2011)
Name
Union of South American Nations (UNASUR)

Headquarters
Quito, Ecuador

Web site
www.unasursg.org

Short description
UNASUR’s objective is to build, in a participatory and consensual manner, an integration and union among its peoples in the cultural, social, economic, and political fields.

Membership
12 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
By signing the Cuzco Declaration in 2004, 12 founding states established the South American Community of Nations, which included members of CAN and MERCOSUR, as well as Chile, Guyana, and Suriname. The name changed to its current form in 2007 and the General Secretariat was formalized in 2008. Paraguay has been suspended since June 2012.

Funding
Contributions by member states to the regular budget of the General Secretariat are based on ‘their economic capacity, shared responsibility and the principle of equity’. The budget for 2013 was adopted in March 2012; Brazil will be the main contributor with 39 per cent, while Argentina, Peru, and Venezuela will each contribute between 10 and 16 per cent.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
UNASUR members represent:
- 4 of 4 CAN members (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru are CAN members)
- 2 of 15 CARICOM members (Guyana and Suriname are CARICOM members)
- 4 of 4 MERCOSUR members (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay are MERCOSUR members)
- 12 of 35 OAS members

PoA POC
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PoA-related activities
In its Constitutive Treaty, UNASUR members commit to strengthen the fight against the global drug problem, corruption, trafficking in small arms and light weapons, terrorism, transnational organized crime, and human trafficking. In 2009 UNASUR agreed to establish a new platform for military exchange and defence policy information, the South American Defence Council (CDS). This instance aims to consolidate South America as a zone of peace and to facilitate coordination for humanitarian and peace missions. Furthermore, it established the Centre for Defence and Strategic Studies (CCED) in Buenos Aires, which is the region’s think tank on defence issues. In 2010 UNASUR played a key role in mediating the Colombia–Venezuela diplomatic crisis and proved its potential to be an important stakeholder in stabilizing regional relations. Under the initiative of Peru, a working group is in charge of developing a future peace, security, and cooperation protocol structured around the idea of reducing expenditures on armaments and redirecting
the money to development, education, and health. To date, UNASUR’s work on security matters has been on traditional agendas of military and territorial defence. However, since 2012 member states have sought to agree on the creation of a joint body to help the region combat transnational organized crime and address human security issues.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

Article 15 of the Constitutive Treaty stipulates strengthened cooperation mechanisms with other regional groups. However, the Council of Heads of State has yet to define these elements of cooperation.

**Legally binding regional instruments**


**Other official documents of interest**

- Decisión para el Establecimiento del Consejo de Defensa Suramericano de la UNASUR (2008)
- Estatuto del Centro de Estudios Estratégicos de Defensa (CEED) del Consejo de Defensa Suramericano (2010)

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* PoA-related programmes and initiatives

* Information accurate as of 18 July 2012
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Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)

Headquarters
Singapore, Singapore

Web site
www.apec.org

Short description
APEC’s ‘primary goal is to support sustainable economic growth and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region’. It champions free and open trade and investment, economic integration, and cooperation, as well as enhancing human security.

Membership
21 members (19 are UN member states)

Notes
Twelve ‘member economies’ established APEC in 1989. Nine additional member economies joined between 1991 and 1998—including Hong Kong and Taiwan (formally recognized by APEC as ‘Hong Kong, China’ and ‘Chinese Taipei’), which both joined as separate member economies along with (mainland) China in 1991. Thus, APEC has 19 member states, but 21 member economies. The moratorium on new member was lifted in 2010, with an agreement to review membership on an annual basis. As of December 2011 no new members were under active consideration.

Funding
APEC member economies contribute towards the organization’s operational account through assessed dues, one of four main sources of funding streams for the organization. Voluntary contributions from its members underwrite three other main revenue streams to support APEC projects and initiatives.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
APEC members represent:
- 7 of 10 ASEAN members (Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar are not APEC members)
- 5 of 35 OAS members (Canada, Chile, Mexico, Peru, and the United States are OAS members)
- 3 of 21 PICP members (Australia, New Caledonia, and Papua New Guinea are PICP members)

PoA-related activities
APEC addresses illicit arms trafficking as part of its counter-terrorism initiatives, which took shape in the wake of the terrorist attacks in the United States in September 2001. In October 2002 APEC members, as part of their Secure Trade in the Asia-Pacific Region (STAR) initiative, undertook to develop counter-terrorism action plans, many of which address broader arms control efforts. This initiative also led to the establishment in May 2003 of the CTTF to help implement and coordinate APEC’s commitments. In October 2003, following the November 2002 terrorist attack in Mombasa, Kenya, APEC leaders explicitly agreed to counter terrorists’ acquisition of MANPADS through: (1) adopting strict domestic export controls; (2) securing stockpiles; (3) regulating production, transfer, and brokering; (4) banning transfers to non-state recipients; and (5) exchanging information on member states’ respective efforts towards these ends. In 2004 APEC established guidelines on MANPADS domestic control measures (e.g. regarding receipt, stockpiling, and storage) and export control measures (e.g. con-
cerning decision making, retransfers, and diversion). STAR conferences addressed MANPADS countermeasures and proliferation concerns in 2005 and 2006, respectively. In addition to the APEC CTTF, the APEC Transportation Working Group (TPTWG) and its two expert groups on aviation and maritime security also present important forums for strengthening small arms counter-proliferation efforts, as do APEC forums that address financing for terrorist activities and supply chain security.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
N/A

Legally binding regional instruments
- None

Other official documents of interest
- Statement on Counter-Terrorism (2001)
- Statement on Fighting Terrorism and Promoting Growth (2002)

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members*
- Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, United States, Vietnam

Bold: founding member

Former members: None

Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 2 June 2012

* Information accurate as of 2 June 2012
Name
Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Headquarters
Jakarta, Indonesia

Web site
www.asean.org

Short description
ASEAN's aims include accelerating economic growth and social progress, and promoting regional peace and stability.

Membership
10 members (all UN member states)

Notes
ASEAN, established in 1967, has its origins in the 1961 Association of Southeast Asia (ASA): Indonesia and Singapore joined ASA's three members—the Philippines, Malaysia, and Thailand—to form ASEAN. The organization's membership has since doubled, first with the addition of Brunei (in 1984), and most recently with the Cambodia's accession (1999). Papua New Guinea, awarded observer status in 1976, has been a 'Special Observer' since 1981. In 2011 Timor-Leste formally applied to become a member.

Funding
ASEAN members are assessed dues whereby each member is to contribute an equal share regardless of its economic strength. Members may supplement this contribution through voluntary payments. Foreign support has mostly come from ASEAN's dialogue partners, i.e. Australia, Canada, China, the EU, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Russian Federation, South Korea, and the United States. For small arms-related initiatives and activities—mostly seminars and workshops, discussed below—ASEAN has received financial assistance from Australia, Canada, the EU, Japan, and UNDP.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
ASEAN members represent:
- 7 of 21 APEC members (Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar are not APEC members)
- 10 of 10 ASEANAPOL members
- 2 of 7 BIMSTEC members (Myanmar and Thailand are BIMSTEC members)

PoA POC
Name: Farah Monika
Title: Technical Officer, Security Cooperation Division, Political and Security Directorate, ASEAN Political-Security Community Department

PoA-related activities
ASEAN first explicitly addressed the need to cooperate to address the threat of illicit arms trafficking at its July 1997 foreign ministers meeting. That December, in Manila, ASEAN heads of state and government again raised the problem of arms smuggling in the Declaration on Transnational Crime. ASEAN since has convened a series of no fewer than half a dozen workshops and seminars to address arms smuggling and implementing the PoA, including a meeting devoted to MANPADS. Moreover, in 2002 ASEAN adopted the Work Programme to Implement the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime, in which ASEAN member states identified numerous 'action lines' to make concrete progress in combating arms smuggling, one of eight areas highlighted under the work programme. Members created the ASEAN Security Community in 2003 (referred to as the ASEAN Political-Security Community since the ASEAN Charter came into force on 15 December...
2008)—one of the organization’s three pillars—to strengthen their ability to follow up and make progress on commitments made. The ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism, concluded in January 2007, entered into force in May 2011 upon ratification by the sixth ASEAN member state. Of relevance to countering the illicit trade in small arms, the convention commits ASEAN members to enhance cross-border cooperation and information sharing. As of March 2012, however, the foreseen databases called for in the convention had not yet been created.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

Under the framework of the ASEAN Regional Forum, the EU has funded two workshops (co-hosted with Cambodia and held in Phnom Penh) to address MANPADS proliferation (2005) and small arms PSSM (2007).

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (2007)
- Charter of the Association of South-east Asian Nations (2007)

**Other official documents of interest**

- ASEAN Declaration on Transnational Crime (1997)
- Work Programme to Implement the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime (2002)
- ASEAN Political-Security Community Blueprint (2009)

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**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

Current members*  
Brunei, Cambodia,  
Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia,  
Myanmar, Philippines,  
Singapore, Thailand,  
Vietnam  
**Bold:** founding member  
**Former members:** None  
**Membership pending:** Timor-Leste

* Information accurate as of 23 May 2012
Name
ASEAN Chiefs of Police (ASEANAPOL)

Headquarters
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Web site
www.aseanapol.org.my

Short description
ASEANAPOL’s objective is to improve regional cooperation in the prevention and combating of transnational crime.

Membership
10 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
ASEANAPOL had five members when it was established in 1981. Between 1984 and 2000 its membership doubled. ASEANAPOL also has seven dialogue partners: five national police forces (from Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand, and South Korea) and two organizations (INTERPOL and the ASEAN Secretariat).

Funding
From 1981 to 2009 the ASEANAPOL member hosting the annual summit covered the associated costs and staffing. In 2010 the permanent Secretariat was established in Kuala Lumpur, with Malaysia covering its operating costs for the initial year. Beginning in 2011 each of the ten members agreed to contribute equally to the Secretariat’s expenses, with members covering the costs of their nationals working at the Secretariat. Some of ASEANAPOL’s dialogue partners provide additional financial and training assistance.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
ASEANAPOL members represent:
- 7 of 21 APEC members (Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar are not APEC members)
- 10 of 10 ASEAN members
- 2 of 7 BIMSTEC members (Myanmar and Thailand are BIMSTEC members)
- 3 of 24 CICA members (Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam are CICA members)

PoA POC
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PoA-related activities
ASEANAPOL is tasked with preparing work plans to help in the implementation of the annual ASEANAPOL resolutions, coordinate and collate intelligence and information, support joint criminal investigations, and assist the rotating host country in preparing for the annual conference and other meetings. Countering ‘arms smuggling’ is one of nine areas of activity that ASEANAPOL addresses. The Secretariat works with its member states to identify contact points responsible for preventing and suppressing the illicit import and export of firearms and ammunition. It collates information from member states twice a year to cover activities undertaken during the previous six months. All members have identified contact points and submitted reports on these activities.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
The ASEAN Secretariat has been represented at ASEANAPOL’s annual conference as an observer since 2007 and became a dialogue partner in 2011. ASEANAPOL participates in the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime and
has also attended the ASEAN Workshop and Study Visit on Illicit Small Arms, Light Weapons and UXO Control in Cambodia.

**Legally binding regional instruments**
- None

**Other official documents of interest**
- None

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**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

* Information accurate as of 6 May 2012
## Name
Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

## Headquarters
Dhaka, Bangladesh (to be operational second half of 2012)

## Web site
www.bimstec.org

## Short description
BIMSTEC promotes economic cooperation among its members and fosters cooperation among South and South-East Asian nations.

### Membership
7 members (all UN member states)

### Notes
Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, and Thailand created BIST-EC in June 1997, which was amended later that year to BIMSTEC when Myanmar formally joined the regional grouping. In 2004 Bhutan and Nepal became members. The acronym did not change, but members agreed on the current name.

### Funding
From 1997 to 2010 members contributed funding to BIMSTEC activities on a voluntary basis. In Myanmar in January 2011, at the organization’s 13th Ministerial Meeting, members agreed to establish a permanent secretariat in Dhaka. Members are to meet in June 2012 to discuss and agree on dues, operational expenses, and budgets.

### Overlapping memberships with other ROs
BIMSTEC members represent:
- 2 of 10 ASEAN members (Myanmar and Thailand are ASEAN members)
- 2 of 24 CICA members (India and Thailand are CICA members)
- 5 of 8 SAARC members (Afghanistan, Maldives, and Pakistan are not BIMSTEC members)

### PoA POC
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### PoA-related activities
In 2005 BIMSTEC created the Sector on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (as part of an expansion of its sectors from the original 6 to 13—a 14th was subsequently added). It has four subgroups: (1) Intelligence Sharing; (2) Legal and Law Enforcement Issues; (3) Combating the Financing of Terrorism; and (4) Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemicals. In 2009, at BIMSTEC’s 12th Ministerial Meeting held in Myanmar, member states signed the BIMSTEC Convention on Cooperation in Combating International Terrorism, Transnational Organized Crime, and Illicit Drug Trafficking. As of April 2012 the convention had yet to enter into force.

### PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
None

### Legally binding regional instruments

### Other official documents of interest
- None
PoA-related programmes and initiatives

- **Current members**: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand
- **Bold**: founding member
- **None**

- **Former members**: None
- **Membership pending**: None

* Information accurate as of 12 May 2012
Name
Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA)

Headquarters
Almaty, Kazakhstan

Web site
www.s-cica.org

Short description
CICA is a multinational consensus-based forum for enhancing dialogue and cooperation through elaborating multilateral approaches towards promoting peace, security, and stability in Asia.

Membership
24 members (23 are UN member states)

Notes
Established in 1999, CICA was formally launched in 2002 with 16 members. Eight additional members have since joined: Thailand (2004), South Korea (2006), Jordan and UAE (2008), Iraq and Vietnam (2010), and Bahrain and Cambodia (2011). A country can join CICA as a member if at least part of its territory is in Asia. Observers include eight states (two of which are from outside Asia: Ukraine and the United States) and three organizations (LAS, the OSCE, and the UN).

Funding
CICA does not have a regular budget. The Secretariat’s activities are funded through voluntary contributions from member states. Kazakhstan has always been the largest contributor, while Azerbaijan, China, Iran, Israel, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, South Korea, and Tajikistan are also known to have made contributions. Members whose nationals work at the Secretariat cover their respective salaries and benefits. (The Permanent Secretariat was established in 2006.)

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
CICA members represent:
- 6 of 9 CIS members
- 5 of 7 CSTO members (Armenia and Belarus are not CICA members)
- 5 of 6 EurAsEC members (Belarus is not a CICA member)
- 6 of 22 LAS members
- 6 of 6 SCO members

PoA-related activities
CICA members recognize the need to curb the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of conventional armaments (1999 Declaration). Underlining the importance of the Firearms Protocol and the PoA, the Almaty Act (2002) sees the illicit trade in small arms as posing ‘a threat to peace and security and is directly linked with terrorist activity, separatist movements, drug trafficking and armed conflicts’. In 2004 CICA members agreed to exchange information on the measures they have taken to curb the illicit small arms trade (Catalogue of Confidence Building Measures (CBMs)). They later reaffirmed their readiness to implement both the PoA and the Catalogue of CBMs (2006 Declaration) and committed to implement the ITI (2010). In 2008 Turkey organized a CICA experts meeting on CBMs and CICA Senior Officials Committee approved an action plan covering border control and management, police-related issues, terrorism, and trafficking issues. This plan provided for the establishment of an NFP network, the holding of regular meetings and training seminars, and information exchange.
The implementation of which, however, has been slow. Several member states are still to nominate their respective NFPs, and only Turkey, which organized the first CICA chiefs of police meeting in May 2010, expressed readiness to host events envisaged in the document.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
CICA seeks to establish and expand relations with other organizations. An MoU with EurAsEC provides for cooperation and exchange of information, best practices, and experiences on issues of mutual interest, and are under consideration for SAARC and the SCO. Since 2010 CICA has been participating in OSCE-organized seminars and workshops on terrorism. (Kazakhstan has proposed to establish an OSCE-CICA forum that could become a permanent dialogue platform on the most urgent issues of security and cooperation in Eurasia.)

Legally binding regional instruments

- None

Other official documents of interest

- Declaration on the Principles Guiding Relations among the CICA Member States (1999)
- Almaty Act (2002)

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members:
Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cambodia, China, Egypt, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Palestinian Territories, Russian Federation, South Korea, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, UAE, Uzbekistan, Vietnam

Current: founding member

Former members: None

Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 13 June 2012
Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

Headquarters
Minsk, Belarus

Web site
www.e-cis.info; www.cis.minsk.by

Short description
The CIS is an association of independent nations that were formerly part of the Soviet Union. Its primary purpose was to mitigate the consequences of the USSR’s breakup by coordinating the policies of former Soviet republics in economic, security, and humanitarian affairs.

Membership
9 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
Belarus, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine established the CIS on 8 December 1991. Eight additional former Soviet republics joined in 1991. Membership reached its zenith when Georgia joined in 1993, however, Georgia withdrew 2009. Two other members—Turkmenistan and Ukraine—have not ratified the CIS Charter (1993), which supplemented the founding agreement and Almaty Protocol (1991). Ashgabat, which declared itself an ‘associate member’in 2005, was nevertheless made chair for 2012 and will host the 2012 summit. Having not ratified the charter, however, it is not a full member

Funding
National contributions, determined according to GDPs and population sizes, make up the CIS regular budget. Interested state parties separately fund other activities and programmes. In 2011 the budget was about USD 19 million. The Russian Federation usually contributes more than half of the CIS budget. Information on PoA-related funding was not available.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
CIS members represent:
- 7 of 7 CSTO members (Belarus and Moldova are not CSTO members)
- 3 of 3 CU members
- 6 of 6 EurAsEC members (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Moldova are not EurAsEC members)
- 5 of 6 SCO members (China is not a CIS member)

PoA POC
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info@e-cis.info

PoA-related activities
Prior to 2001 CIS member states exchanged information on crimes involving firearms, explosives, and ammunition under the 1992 agreement among their interior ministries (updated in 2009 at the prime-ministerial level). In 1997 the CIS Inter-Parliamentary Assembly adopted the Model Law on Weapons that was recommended to the CIS parliaments as the basis for their national legislations. In 1998 member states signed a cooperative agreement on border control on CIS external borders in which they agreed to take coordinated measures to prevent illegal transfers of weapons and ammunition, and exchange information on trafficking routes. Another 1998 agreement committed parties to cooperate in preventing and investigating illicit trafficking in weapons, ammunition, and explosives, and in recovering stolen firearms. In 2003 CIS states agreed to exchange information on international transfers of IglA and Strela MANPADS. In 2008 they signed an agreement pledging to cooperate in combating the illicit manufacture of and trade in firearms, ammu-
nition, explosive substances, and explosive devices—commitments echoed in the CIS joint action plans on preventing crime and terrorism. Interested CIS members are working on establishing a unified marking system for explosive substances, ammunition, and firearms based on the 2005 concept document, and on developing shared tracing mechanisms.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

The CIS, unlike its individual participating states, is not involved in PoA-specific cooperation with other ROs. In October 2010 the CIS, the CSTO, EurAsEC, and the SCO issued a joint statement pledging to strengthen cooperation and agreed to create a joint working group to coordinate common responses to current challenges and threats.

Legally binding regional instruments

- Model Law on Weapons (1997)
- Resolution on Measures to Control the International Transfer of Igla and Strela Man-Portable Air Defence Systems by the Participating States of the Commonwealth of Independent States (2003)
- Agreement on Cooperation in Information Exchange in the Field of Crime Prevention (2009)

Other official documents of interest

- Concept of the Unified System of Informational Marking for Explosive Substances, Ammunition and Firearms of the Participating States of the Commonwealth of Independent States (2005)
- Joint Statement of Senior Administrative Officials of EurAsEC, CSTO, CIS, and SCO (2010)

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

- Current members: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan
- Bold: founding member
- Former members: Georgia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine
- Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 6 June 2012
Name
Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)

Headquarters
Moscow, Russian Federation

Web site

Short description
The CSTO is a military alliance that promotes the collective defence of any member that comes under external aggression. It also strives for its members to coordinate their efforts against terrorist threats, illicit drug trafficking, and transnational crime.

Membership
7 members (all UN member states)

Notes
The CSTO, created in 2002, has its origins in the 1992 Collective Security Treaty. Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan were the first signatories of the Treaty. Azerbaijan, Belarus, and Georgia subsequently signed the treaty in 1993. Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Uzbekistan withdrew in 1999, but Uzbekistan rejoined in 2006. (Thus, Uzbekistan is treated as a founding member, even though it was not a member when the CSTO was formally established. Yet Belarus is not treated as a founding member, even though it was an original signatory to the CSTO Charter.)

Funding
CSTO members cover the organization’s Secretariat and operational costs. The Russian Federation’s contribution accounts for about 50 per cent of the CSTO’s budget. The remaining costs are evenly distributed among the other member states.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
CSTO members represent:
- 7 of 9 CIS members (Azerbaijan and Moldova are not CSTO members)
- 6 of 6 EurAsEC members (Armenia is not a EurAsEC member)
- 5 of 6 SCO members (Armenia and Belarus are not SCO members, and SCO member China is not a CSTO member)

PoA-related activities
The CSTO identifies countering ‘challenges and threats to security’, including terrorism, violent forms of extremism, drug trafficking, and organized crime, as one of its main areas of activity. Coordination of efforts in the field of countering the illicit circulation of weapons among others is a charter-based mandate of the CSTO (Article 8 of the 2002 CSTO Charter). To this end, the CSTO has developed coordination mechanisms and information exchange procedures, and has supported law enforcement training for its members. (The Russian Federation takes a lead role in training CSTO members in the field of countering narcotics.) CSTO Operation Kanal, a multi-year anti-drug campaign begun in 2003, has netted many illicit weapons. The initiative engages countries beyond the CSTO’s membership and takes place in the territory of CSTO members and some states that ‘observe’ the annual exercise. (There are 25 such states.) Between 2003 and 2011, 17 stages of the operation were implemented with a total of 14,865 firearms and 435,352 munitions removed from illegal circulation.

PoA POC
Name: Tchountoulov Anatoliy Vladimirovich
Title: Deputy Head, Department of Political Cooperation
+7-495-623-4346 odkb@gov.ru
+7-495-623-5166

PoA-related activities
The CSTO identifies countering ‘challenges and threats to security’, including terrorism, violent forms of extremism, drug trafficking, and organized crime, as one of its main areas of activity. Coordination of efforts in the field of countering the illicit circulation of weapons among others is a charter-based mandate of the CSTO (Article 8 of the 2002 CSTO Charter). To this end, the CSTO has developed coordination mechanisms and information exchange procedures, and has supported law enforcement training for its members. (The Russian Federation takes a lead role in training CSTO members in the field of countering narcotics.) CSTO Operation Kanal, a multi-year anti-drug campaign begun in 2003, has netted many illicit weapons. The initiative engages countries beyond the CSTO’s membership and takes place in the territory of CSTO members and some states that ‘observe’ the annual exercise. (There are 25 such states.) Between 2003 and 2011, 17 stages of the operation were implemented with a total of 14,865 firearms and 435,352 munitions removed from illegal circulation.
**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

The CSTO signed a memorandum of cooperation with the SCO in 2007. The CSTO is also making a serious effort to develop its relations with the OSCE, EurAsEc, the CIS, and the EU (as well as the UN) in the field of counter-terrorism and illegal migration.

**Legally binding regional instruments**


**Other official documents of interest**

- Plan of Action on Counteracting Challenges and Threats from the Territory of Afghanistan (2011)

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**Current members**

- Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

**Bold:** founding member

**Former members:** Azerbaijan, Georgia

**Membership pending:** None

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*Information accurate as of 20 May 2012*
Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC)

Headquarters
Moscow, Russian Federation

Web site
www.evrazes.com

Short description
EurAsEC is an international economic organization aimed at creating common external customs borders, promoting unified economic policy, and fostering cooperation among its member states on humanitarian issues.

Membership
6 members (all UN member states)

Notes
EurAsEC was established in October 2000 by Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, and Tajikistan. Uzbekistan joined the organization in January 2006. Tashkent then chose to 'suspend' its membership in October 2008 citing EurAsEC's duplication of CIS and CSTO activities and the country's unpreparedness to join the CIS. EurAsEC has not formally recognized Uzbekistan as a 'former member', however. Armenia, Moldova, and Ukraine are observers.

Funding
For most of EurAsEC's existence the Russian Federation has been assessed 40 per cent of EurAsEC's budget, Belarus and Kazakhstan 20 per cent each, and Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan 10 per cent each. During Uzbekistan's brief membership Moscow continued to cover its established share, while Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan were to contribute 15 per cent each, and Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan 7.5 per cent each. In 2011 EurAsEC's budget was about USD 7 million, with about USD 125,000 spent on establishing an informational and procedural support system for the common order of export control by EurAsEC members.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
EurAsEC members represent:
- 5 of 24 CICA members (Belarus is not a CICA member)
- 6 of 9 CIS members
- 6 of 7 CSTO members
- 3 of 3 CU members
- 5 of 6 SCO members (Belarus is not an SCO member)

PoA POC
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PoA-related activities
In September 2001 EurAsEC members signed an information exchange agreement on border issues that included commitments to share information on illegal cross-border transfers of weapons, ammunition, and explosives, as well as on smuggling channels and individuals involved in international organized crime, including illicit trade in arms. In 2003, members signed a treaty whereby they agreed to take cooperative measures to prevent unauthorized transfers of weapons, ammunition and explosives, and investigate related incidents. The Council on Border Affairs, EurAsEC's subsidiary body, oversees border cooperation among members and implementation of the two above agreements. In 2003 EurAsEC members signed the Agreement on the Common Order of Export Control, which covers Military equipment and weapons among others. The Council of Heads of Customs Services under the EurAsEC Integration Committee—with offices in Almaty and Moscow—coordinates the activities of members' customs agencies. The parties promote
the creation of a unified automated customs information system and cooperate in equipping the borders of member states with specialized customs control equipment.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

While not dealing specifically with PoA-relevant issues, EurAsEC signed MoUs with the SCO (May 2006), BSEC (December 2006), and CICA (August 2008), as well as a protocol on interaction with the CSTO (2004). In October 2010 senior officials of EurAsEC, CIS, CSTO, and SCO issued a joint statement pledging to strengthen cooperation and agreed to create a joint working group to coordinate common responses to current challenges and threats.

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- Treaty Establishing the Eurasian Economic Community (2000)
- Agreement on Information Interaction of the Eurasian Economic Community Member States on Border Issues (2001)
- Treaty on Cooperation in Guarding External Borders of the Eurasian Economic Community Member States (2003)
- Agreement on the Common Order of Export Control by the Eurasian Economic Community Member States (2003)

**Other official documents of interest**

- Report on Priorities and Intensification of Activities of EurAsEC Member States in the Field of Border Policy (2009)
- Joint Statement of Senior Administrative Officials of EurAsEC, CSTO, CIS, and SCO (2010)

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**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

- Current members:
  - Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan
- Former members: None
- Membership pending: None

*Information accurate as of 31 May 2012*
Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook

**Name**
Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC)

**Headquarters**
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**Web site**
www.gcc-sg.org/eng

**Short description**
The GCC broadly promotes coordination, cooperation, and integration among its members with a focus on economic affairs. The organization’s mandate is sufficiently broad, however, to include ‘all fields’ of activity.

**Membership**
6 members (all UN member states)

**Notes**
The GCC was established in 1981 with six members. Its membership has remained constant. In May 2011, however, it invited Jordan and Morocco to apply for membership. In September 2011 these two countries attended a GCC meeting of foreign ministers, which agreed to form a committee to study the issue of membership further. Yemen has also long expressed an interest to join the organization. In 2002 it signed a cooperation agreement with the GCC and receives funds for development projects. Accordingly, Yemen became a member of several GCC economic organizations, which is as a preliminary step before applying for full membership.

**Funding**
According to the GCC Charter (Article 18), the Secretariat’s budget comes from equal contributions from its members. The Supreme Council is in charge of approving the budget.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
GCC members represent:
- 2 of 24 CICA members (Bahrain and UAE are CICA members)
- 6 of 22 LAS members

**PoA-related activities**
In terms of joint military, defence, security, and coordination cooperation, the GCC Supreme Council emphasizes the importance of enhancing cooperation in preventing arms smuggling to the GCC states. The 1994 GCC Security Agreement explicitly prohibits illicit arms trading and promotes using the newest technologies to combat arms trafficking. As for arms manufacturing, cooperation in developing a joint military industry was expressed in the GCC Joint Defence Agreement in 2000. In 2004 the GCC Counter-Terrorism Agreement was adopted and in 2006 a permanent committee on terrorism was established. The agreement prohibits arms supply in aiding terrorism. In May 2012 the GCC Supreme Council has proposed a new security agreement that deals with organized crime and has proposed the establishment of a GCC police organization. In June 2012 the Customs Union Committee started its functions. Among other responsibilities it is assigned to follow up on the completion of a joint electronic database at customs ports of member states to share information on goods transported.
PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

None

Legally binding regional instruments

Other official documents of interest
- None

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members*
Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE

Bold: founding member

Former members: None

Membership pending:
Jordan, Morocco

* Information accurate as of 21 June 2012
**Name**
Organization for Democracy and Economic Development (GUAM)

**Headquarters**
Kiev, Ukraine

**Web site**
www.guam-organization.org

**Short description**
GUAM aims to promote democratic values; ensure sustainable development; strengthen international and regional security and stability; and intensify political, economic, and humanitarian cooperation among its members.

**Membership**
4 members (all UN member states)

**Notes**
Created in October 1997 as a consultative forum, the GUAM Group (made up of Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, and Moldova) was institutionalized as an organization in June 2001. Uzbekistan joined the group in 1999, only to suspend its membership in 2002 and withdraw from GUAM in 2005 (it rejoined the CSTO the following year), resulting in a change to the organization’s name by halving the number of U’s. In May 2006 GUAM was renamed the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development—GUAM. Turkey and Latvia are observer countries.

**Funding**
GUAM's annual budget is made of equal contributions from its member states (about USD 650,000 in 2008).

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
GUAM members represent:
- 4 of 12 BSEC members
- 2 of 9 CIS members (Azerbaijan and Moldova are CIS members)
- 4 of 56 OSCE members

**PoA-related activities**
In 1999 GUAM presidents issued a statement pledging to undertake joint actions to prevent arms transfers to conflict zones. In 2002 GUAM members signed an agreement to cooperate in combating terrorism and organized crime, including undertaking coordinated measures to prevent illicit trafficking in arms, ammunition, military equipment, and explosives. In 2003, the Virtual Center on Combating Terrorism, Organized Crime, Drug Trafficking and Other Forms of Dangerous Crimes, and the Intergovernmental Information Management System (IIMS) was established. In 2006 member border guard agencies signed a protocol on cooperation focused on combating contraband of weapons, ammunition, and explosives through the exchange of information and expertise, and through coordinated actions. In 2007 GUAM's Working Group on Combating Terrorism, Organized Crime and Drug Trafficking approved the mechanism for information exchange on stolen or lost firearms. In the 2007 Sectoral Cooperation Development Strategy GUAM members agreed to improve their cooperation in combating...
illegal trade in arms, along with other forms of organized crime, but currently this cooperation focuses mostly on illegal migration, drug trafficking, terrorism, corruption, and money laundering.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

In its 2007 Sectoral Cooperation Development Strategy GUAM announced its intention to extend cooperation with other ROs involved in the fight against terrorism, organized crime, drug trafficking, and other types of transnational crimes, including the OSCE, INTERPOL, Europol, and SECI. As part of this effort, Moldova’s Ministry of Internal Affairs operates a joint GUAM–SECI virtual coordination centre. GUAM and OSCE officials occasionally express their willingness to intensify cooperation in strengthening border control and combating organized crime, but no formal arrangement has been signed to date.

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- Agreement Establishing the GUAM Virtual Centre on Combating Terrorism, Organized Crime, Drug Trafficking and Other Forms of Dangerous Crimes, and the GUAM Intergovernmental Information Management System (2003)
- Protocol on Cooperation between Operative Units of the Border Guard Agencies of the GUAM Member States (2006)

**Other official documents of interest**

- GUAM Sectoral Cooperation Development Strategy (2007)
Name
League of Arab States (LAS)

Headquarters
Cairo, Egypt

Web site
www.lasportal.org
www.lasportal.org/wps/portal/las_en/home
[English version]

Short description
LAS promotes closer ties among members and coordinates economic, cultural, and security policies and plans. It strives to develop cooperation, protect national security, and maintain the independence and sovereignty of its members.

Membership
22 members (21 are UN member states)

Notes
Seven countries formed LAS in March 1945 with another 15 members joining in the years that followed. The Gulf countries of Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, and the UAE all joined in 1971, and the Palestinian Territories in 1976. Comoros was the last member to join in 1993. LAS requires members to have Arabic as a main language. Three organizations are observers: the UN, AU, and OIC, and 30 states are accredited to LAS (attending only opening sessions). Syria’s participation in LAS meetings was suspended in November 2011.

Funding
Members finance LAS through assessed contributions. Budgets are approved annually, at which time the share of the expenses or dues to be paid by each member state is fixed. Mainly Germany, but also Switzerland, has sponsored PoA-related activities.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
LAS members represent:
- 9 of 54 AU members (Algeria, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Somalia, Sudan, and Tunisia are AU members)
- 6 of 6 GCC members
- 5 of 5 UMA members

PoA POC
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PoA-related activities
LAS has been an active participant at PoA meetings. Even before the PoA was established, LAS addressed information-sharing concerns on transfers of small arms as they related to terrorist activities in its 1998 Arab Convention on Terrorism. In January 2002 LAS developed the Arab Model Law on Weapons, Ammunition, Explosives and Hazardous Materials to assist its members in preparing new legislation or to update and close loopholes in existing laws. The LAS Regional Focal Point was established in 2004 with the financial support of Germany. As part of this assistance, Germany also supported the capacity building of NFPs. LAS also encouraged and assisted its members in establishing NFPs and all except for one in Somalia have been established.
LAS held the first meeting of small arms NFPs, at which 17 states were represented, in December 2005 with financial support from Germany and Switzerland. This meeting has subsequently been held annually. Germany funded three-day seminars for officers of member states in 2008–10 on small arms issues. No such meeting took place in
2011, but Germany has agreed to continue funding the seminars if there is a wish to do so. LAS is in the process of co-organizing with UNODA a seminar that will take place following RevCon2.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**
LAS has observer status at the AU and the two organizations hold regular inter-Secretariat meetings on general cooperation. LAS has observed several ASEAN summits. It also exchanges invitations to related small arms meetings with the EU. Upon a LAS request, the OSCE translated into Arabic the OSCE Handbook of Best Practices on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

**Legally binding regional instruments**
- Arab Convention on Terrorism (1998)

**Other official documents of interest**
- LAS Ministerial Council Resolution 6625 on Arab Coordination for Combating the Illicit Trade in SALW (unofficial translation) (4 March 2006)

**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

**Current members**
- Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestinian Territories, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen

- **Bold**: founding member
- **Yellow**: suspended member
- **Former members**: None
- **Membership pending**: None

*Information accurate as of 18 April 2012*
Name
South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

Headquarters
Kathmandu, Nepal

Web site
www.saarc-sec.org

Short description
SAARC supports economic and social development within the South Asian sub-region.

Membership
8 members (all UN member states)

Notes
Seven South Asian nations established SAARC in 1985. Afghanistan became the organization's eighth member in 2007. The organization has nine formal observers: Australia, China, the EU, Iran, Japan, Mauritius, Myanmar, South Korea, and the United States. (In 2012 SAARC will review its 2008 decision not to expand the number of observers.)

Funding
SAARC receives most of its funding from its eight members. It also receives some support from its observers.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
SAARC members represent:
- 5 of 7 BIMSTEC members (Myanmar and Thailand are not SAARC members)
- 3 of 24 CICA members (Afghanistan, India, and Pakistan are CICA members)

PoA-related activities
The SAARC Regional Convention on Suppression of Terrorism and its Additional Protocol (which entered into force in 1998 and 2006, respectively) provide the basis for a range of sub-regional cooperation measures that implicitly can help to implement the PoA. Article 9 of the protocol explicitly calls for members to exchange information ‘to detect and prevent the international movement of terrorists and trafficking of arms’ (albeit ‘consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative regimes’). Two SAARC monitoring desks track drug offences (established 1992) and terrorist offences (established 1995), and serve as focal points for expertise, training, best practices, and information sharing. (In February 2012 a SAARC experts group called for a review of the web portal used by these two desks.) The 2009 SAARC Ministerial Declaration on Cooperation in Combating Terrorism reiterated the organization’s support for the exchange of information to detect and prevent arms trafficking and agreed to explore the possibility of developing an integrated border
management mechanism. Later in 2009 SAARC sent an official to attend a UN meeting on combating illicit brokering in small arms, while in 2010 SAARC leaders noted that the illegal trafficking of firearms continued to be a matter of serious concern. SAARC has also convened ten police conferences since 1996 to discuss issues such as networking among police authorities, organized crime, drug trafficking, corruption, and training. At the 2011 conference it discussed the possibility of creating a regional police institution—SAARCPOL—which is still under review. As SAARC has noted, although it has no mandate explicitly linked to implementing the PoA, ‘it has long been expected to establish a forum or mechanism to address the issue of small arms at the subregional level’. SAARC is discussing this further with UNRCPD.

PoA-related cooperation with other ROs
None

Legally binding regional instruments
- Charter of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (1985)

Other official documents of interest
- SAARC Ministerial Declaration on Cooperation in Combating Terrorism (2009)
Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

**Headquarters**
Beijing, China

**Web site**
www.sectsco.org; www.ecrats.com

**Short description**
The SCO aims to strengthen mutual trust and good-neighbourly relations among its members by promoting effective cooperation on a very broad range of shared economic, political, scientific, and security interests.

**Membership**
6 members (all UN member states)

**Notes**
The SCO was founded in June 2001 on the basis of the Shanghai Five—an informal negotiation mechanism created in April 1996 by China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, and Tajikistan to promote confidence building and demilitarization in their respective border regions. The SCO's six members include the Shanghai Five countries and Uzbekistan. SCO observers include Afghanistan, India, Iran, Mongolia, and Pakistan. SCO dialogue partners include Belarus, Sri Lanka, and Turkey.

**Funding**
The SCO’s relatively small annual budget (USD 4 million in 2007) is spent on the administrative functions of its two permanent bodies: the Secretariat in Beijing and the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) in Tashkent (as of 2004 each had a permanent staff of 30). The number of SCO posts allocated to each member state corresponds to its financial contributions to the budget (China and the Russian Federation contribute 24 per cent each, Kazakhstan 21 per cent, Uzbekistan 15 per cent, Kyrgyzstan 10 per cent, and Tajikistan 6 per cent). Specific projects and programmes are implemented on a bilateral or multilateral basis through additional contributions from participating member states.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
SCO members represent:
- 5 of 6 EurAsEC members (China is not a EurAsEC member)
- 5 of 9 CIS members
- 5 of 7 CSTO members
- 5 of 56 OSCE members (China is not an OSCE member)

**PoA-related activities**
Members agreed to exchange information on the illicit manufacture, procurement, storage, transfer, movement, sale, or use of explosives, firearms, and ammunition in the Shanghai Convention (2001). The 2002 SCO Charter lists fighting against arms trafficking among its main goals. Parties submit information on the use of explosive devices, weapons, and ammunition in terrorist acts to the RATS database (2004).

In 2008 the SCO members agreed a cooperation agreement on crimes related to arms trafficking, covering the harmonization of national legislation, the development of joint counter-measures, and the exchange of relevant information and expertise, joint research and assistance in training. It was strengthened in 2010 to include the illicit manufacture of and trade in arms, ammunition, and explosive devices and substances. In 2009, SCO members with Afghanistan adopted an action plan pledging to jointly fight against illicit trafficking, including in investigating criminal cases and collecting evidence. Members pledged to cooperate in combating the illicit arms trade in the Joint SCO–UN Secretariat Declaration (2010).
**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

In 2007 the SCO and CSTO signed an MoU on cooperation to prevent illicit arms trafficking through consultations, information sharing, and joint programmes and actions. In 2010 the SCO, CIS, CSTO, and EurAsEC issued a joint statement pledging to strengthen cooperation and agreed to create a joint working group to coordinate common responses to challenges and threats. In June 2011 the RATS Executive Committee and CSTO signed a protocol pledging to intensify cooperation in the fight against terrorism, separatism and extremism.

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- Shanghai Convention on Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism (2001)
- Charter of the SCO (2002)
- Agreement on Cooperation between the Governments of the SCO Member States in Combating Illicit Trafficking in Weapons, Ammunition and Explosives (2008)
- Agreement on Cooperation between the Governments of the SCO Member States in the Fight against Crime (2010)

**Other official documents of interest**

- MoU between the SCO Secretariat and CSTO Secretariat (2007)
- Joint Statement of Senior Administrative Officials of EurAsEC, CSTO, CIS, and SCO (2010)
- Joint Declaration on SCO-UN Secretariat Cooperation (2010)

**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

- Current members:
  - China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan
  - **Bold**: founding member

- Former members: None

- Membership pending: None

*Information accurate as of 7 June 2012*
Section contents

BSEC Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation
CU Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation
EU European Union
EUROCONTROL European Organization for the Safety of Air Navigation
Europol European Law Enforcement Agency
NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organization
OSCE Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
RACVIAC RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation
RCC Regional Cooperation Council
SELEC Southeast European Law Enforcement Center
**Name**  
Organization of the  
Black Sea Economic  
Cooperation (BSEC)

**Headquarters**  
Istanbul, Turkey

**Web site**  
www.bsec-organization.org

**Short description**  
BSEC is a regional  
inter-governmental  
economic cooperation  
organization aimed at  
humanitarianism and  
good neighbourliness.

**Membership**  
12 members  
(all UN member states)

**Notes**  
BSEC was created in 1992 by 11  
leaving members. Its Permanent  
International Secretariat was  
established in 1994 and its  
charter, adopted in 1998, entered  
into force in 1999. Serbia and  
Montenegro became the 12th  
member state in 2004. (After  
Montenegro became independent  
in 2006, Serbia’s membership  
has continued.) BSEC has 17  
observers and 16 sectoral  
dialogue partners that include  
countries and organizations  
from Europe, Asia, Africa, and  
the Americas.

**Funding**  
BSEC members provide  
compulsory contributions  
to run its Secretariat, and voluntary  
contributions to its  
two project funds  
(BSEC Project  
Development Fund  
and BSEC Hellenic  
Development Fund).

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**  
BSEC members represent:

- 4 of 9 CIS members  
  (Armenia, Azerbaijan,  
  Moldova, and the  
  Russian Federation  
  are CIS members)
- 3 of 27 EU members  
  (Bulgaria, Greece,  
  and Romania are EU  
  members)
- 4 of 4 GUAM  
  members
- 6 of 10 RACVIAC  
  members (Albania,  
  Bulgaria, Greece,  
  Romania, Serbia,  
  and Turkey are BSEC  
  members)
- 7 of 13 SELEC  
  members (Albania,  
  Bulgaria, Greece,  
  Moldova, Romania,  
  Serbia, and Turkey  
  are BSEC members)

**PoA POC**  
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**PoA-related activities**  
Under its 1998 charter (which entered into force in 1999), BSEC members agreed to work together to, among other things, combat organized crime and the illicit trafficking of drugs, weapons, and radioactive materials (Article 4). BSEC members’ interior ministers have subsequently concluded numerous agreements and protocols to move this agenda forward. The 1998 Agreement on Cooperation in Combating Crime (which entered into force in 1999) makes explicit reference to cooperation to counter the ‘illicit trafficking in weapons’ and promotes the exchange of information among its members to address this concern (Articles 1 and 2). The 2002 Additional Protocol to the BSEC Agreement on Cooperation in Combating Crime established a ‘BSEC Network of Liaison Officers on Combating Crime’ (Article 1). The 2004 Additional Protocol on Combating Terrorism to the above-mentioned agreement committed states to exchange information on ‘illicit trafficking of weapons, including ammunition’ (Article 5, para. g) and to cooperate closely to prevent, disclose, and suppress financial support for and delivery of weapons and ammuni-
tion (Article 6, para. f). The Working Group on Cooperation in Combating Crime in Particular in Its Organized Forms meets regularly to follow up on the implementation of the previously mentioned BSEC agreements and to foster regional cooperation in fighting organized crime. The working group has been preparing annual reviews on transnational crime trends in the BSEC region starting from 2009, which serve as valuable tools for BSEC policy-makers.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

None

**Legally binding regional instruments**


**Other official documents of interest**

- Joint Statement Adopted at the Fifth Meeting of the Ministers of Internal Affairs/Public Order of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) Member States (2002)

**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

Current members*
- Albania,
- Armenia,
- Azerbaijan,
- Bulgaria,
- Georgia,
- Greece,
- Moldova,
- Romania,
- Russian Federation,
- Serbia,
- Turkey,
- Ukraine

Bold: founding member

Former members: None

Membership pending: Kyrgyzstan

* Information accurate as of 21 June 2012
Name
Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation (CU)

Headquarters
Moscow, Russian Federation

Web site
www.tsouz.ru

Short description
The CU is a free-trade alliance among three former Soviet republics to harmonize customs rules, establish common external tariffs, and create a common economic space.

Membership
3 members (all UN member states)

Notes
Belarus, Kazakhstan, and the Russian Federation established the CU in October 2007. They envisage it as an initial step towards creating an EU-type Eurasian union. Kyrgyzstan applied for membership in April 2011 and is expected to join in 2013.

Funding
CU member states provide annual funding to pay for the salaries and expenses of the CU Commission, the organization’s regulatory body (expected to be replaced by the Eurasian Economic Commission in the second half of 2012). In 2011 the commission’s budget was about USD 14.8 million, with the Russian Federation contributing 57 per cent and the other two countries paying 21.5 per cent each. No funds are allocated for specific PoA-related activities.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
CU members represent:
- 3 of 9 CIS members
- 3 of 7 CSTO members
- 3 of 6 EurAsEC members
- 2 of 6 SCO members (Belarus is not a SCO member)

PoA POC
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PoA-related activities
In November 2009 the CU adopted a common list of small arms, their parts, and ammunition whose export, import, or transit are banned or restricted in the CU’s territory. The ‘ban’ list includes civilian firearms designed for automatic fire and firearms disguised as other objects, among other items. The ‘restriction’ list includes service and civilian firearms, which require export/import licences or transit permits from the relevant national authorities of CU member states. The CU entered into force on 1 January 2010 and in September 2010 heads of law enforcement units of member states’ customs services held a working meeting in Moscow as part of their efforts to intensify inter-agency cooperation in the fight against violations of the customs regulations. During the meeting the participants approved the Action Plan for 2010–11, which included specific activities at the CU’s borders to prevent, detect, and intercept smuggling channels, and laid down the coordination procedures among their units. Currently, in an effort to harmonize their export control rules
and procedures, and effectively control transfers of goods and technologies subject to export controls, including weapons and military equipment, the CU member states are discussing the draft of an agreement on the common order of export control.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

As an entity, the CU is not involved in PoA-relevant cooperation with other organizations.

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- Treaty on Establishing a Common Customs Territory and Forming a Customs Union (2007)
- Common List of Goods, Exports or Imports Which Are Banned or Restricted by the CU Member States When Trading with Third Countries (2009)

**Other official documents of interest**

- Agreement on the Common Order of Export Control by the CU Member States (to be signed)
Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook

Name
European Union (EU)

Headquarters
Brussels, Belgium

Web site

Short description
The EU is an economic and political partnership with the main objectives of promoting peace and the well-being of its people through common economic, foreign, security, and justice policies.

Membership
27 members (all UN member states)

Notes
The EU traces its origins from the European Economic Community, formed by six countries in 1958. The Maastricht Treaty established the EU under its current name in 1992. Since 2007 there has been a total of 27 member states. Six additional countries are candidate or acceding countries.

Funding
The EU budget is funded by contributions from its 27 member states.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
EU members represent:
- 27 of 27 Europol members
- 21 of 28 NATO members
- 27 of 56 OSCE members
- 19 of 46 RCC members

PoA POC
Name: Carolin Thielking
Title: Political Desk Officer and SALW Focal Contact Point, European External Action Service

PoA-related activities
The EU’s commitment to strong arms transfer controls began with the adoption in 1998 of the Code of Conduct on Arms Exports, replaced since 2008 by the Council Common Position Defining Common Rules Governing the Control of Exports of Military Technology and Equipment, including small arms. In 2003 the EU Council also adopted the Common Position on the Control of Conventional Arms Brokering. The EU Council Working Party on Conventional Arms Exports (COARM) ensures coordination among EU member states in their national implementation of the 2008 Common Position. The EU also publishes a regular annual report providing data on EU member states’ arms exports to third countries. In 2005 the EU Council adopted a strategy to fight against the illicit accumulation and trafficking of small arms, in which international cooperation and assistance play a central role. Its implementation is monitored with six-monthly progress reports. EU assistance programmes cover, for instance, the full implementation of relevant multilateral instruments, stockpile management, the destruction of
surplus weapons, assistance on the control of small arms exports, training to improve border controls, and actions to counter illegal trafficking flows and confront the root causes of illegal demand for small arms. The EU Council Working Party on Global Disarmament and Arms Controls (CODUN) holds regular meetings dedicated to the issue of small arms and their ammunition and, among other things, discusses current and future projects and areas of cooperation.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
The EU is a major donor funding PoA-related activities in close cooperation with other ROs, for instance EAC, CEEAC, ECOWAS, RECSA, SEESAC, SICA, and INTERPOL. In addition it also regularly cooperates and/or consults with ASEAN, NATO, the OSCE, UNODA, UNODC, and others.

Legally binding regional instruments

Other official documents of interest
- EU Strategy to Combat the Illicit Accumulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Their Ammunition (2005)

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members*:
Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom

Bold: founding member

Former members:
None

Membership pending:
Croatia (acceding); Iceland, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey (candidates)

* Information accurate as of 13 June 2012
Name
European Organization for the Safety of Air Navigation (EUROCONTROL)

Headquarters
Brussels, Belgium

Web site
www.eurocontrol.int

Short description
EUROCONTROL is a civil–military organization committed to building, together with its partners, a Single European Sky that will deliver air traffic management performance for the 21st century and beyond.

Membership
39 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
At its founding in 1960 EUROCONTROL had six members (see below). Its membership doubled between January 1965 and January 1991 (with the successive additions of Ireland, Portugal, Turkey, Malta, and Greece). Membership reached 28 by the end of the 1990s. Latvia, the organization’s most recent member, joined in January 2011. The European Community signed an Accession Protocol in 2002.

Funding
The agency budget (EUR 673 million in 2012) is mainly financed (77 per cent) by contributions from the 39 members (for operational expenditure) and bank loans (capital expenditure). Annual contributions are determined by a formula that includes the gross national product and the air traffic route facility cost base of each member. France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom contribute about 60 per cent of the total budget (the Maastricht Upper Area Control Centre and the Central Route Charges Office are financed separately).

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
EUROCONTROL members represent:
- 26 of 27 EU members (Estonia is not a EUROCONTROL member)
- 24 of 28 NATO members (Canada, Estonia, Iceland, and the United States are not EUROCONTROL members)
- 39 of 56 OSCE members

PoA-related activities
EUROCONTROL warehouses data on all Instrument Flight Rules flights within its airspace dating back to 1995. It also maintains its own aircraft database, which can be accessed via a secure web login. Since 2011 it has had an agreement with the UN for questions relating to flights in its airspace. UN Security Council Panels of Experts examining possible UN sanctions violations may inquire about specific flight data, which EUROCONTROL will evaluate on a case-by-case basis as to whether it can furnish the information desired.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
EUROCONTROL is currently discussing the possibility of entering into an arrangement with the OSCE similar to the one it concluded with the UN (discussed above).

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* C G PDS RAE F
Legally binding regional instruments
- None

Other official documents of interest
- None

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members*
- Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom

Bold: founding member

Former members: None

Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 22 May 2012
**Regional Organizations and the PoA**

**Name**
European Law Enforcement Agency (Europol)

**Headquarters**
The Hague, the Netherlands

**Web site**
www.europol.europa.eu

**Short description**
Europol’s mission is to improve the effectiveness of and cooperation among EU law enforcement authorities in preventing and combating serious international crime and terrorism, with the aim of achieving a safer Europe for all EU citizens.

**Membership**
27 member (all UN member states)

**Notes**
Europol members are aligned with the EU membership. The first steps towards establishing Europol can be traced back to the 1970s; however, its role and scope evolved until the Maastricht Treaty, which came into force in 1993, established a convention. Europol became operational in 1999. Reforms brought in by a new legal framework in 2010 made Europol an EU agency.

**Funding**
Europol is financed from the EU budget and is subject to EU financial and staff regulations. After it became an EU agency, the European Parliament gained increased control over Europol activities and budget.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
Europol members represent:
- 27 of 27 EU members
- 21 of 28 NATO members
- 27 of 56 OSCE members
- 19 of 46 RCC members

**PoA POC**
Name: Europol
Title: Operations Department
☎ +31-70-302-5000
✉ o1@europol.europa.eu
☎ +31-70-345-5896

**PoA-related activities**
Europol handles the exchange and analysis of criminal intelligence across the EU. It has a permanent exchange of communications and criminal data connection with national units, which are based in every EU member state, and supports around two million EU law enforcement officers. Firearms are often confiscated or dealt with as part of responses to maritime piracy, money laundering, and the trafficking of drugs, humans, and other commodities. In 2010 a Europol policy brief considered firearms possession by both organized crime groups and lower-level street gangs to be rising. It recommended the following operational priorities: joint investigations focused on ‘dedicated armourers’ and ‘specialist brokers’ of firearms based in the EU; dedicated efforts to investigate and monitor the flows of firearms leaving South-east Europe for the EU; and the detailed recording of the quantity and types of illegal firearms seized in law enforcement operations, as well as those recovered in interdictions of multi-commodity shipments. Operation Shovel (2010) is an example of these measures. It focused on an Ireland-based violent organized crime group.
group involved in drugs and weapons trafficking across Europe. Europol assisted law enforcement agencies in Ireland, the United Kingdom, Spain, and Belgium by providing analyses and helping these agencies to detect criminal proceeds related to the group’s activities and dismantle the group’s money-laundering network. Europol held operational and coordination meetings and supplied mobile offices in three countries on the day of the operation, thus allowing investigators to securely exchange intelligence in real time. More than 600 pieces of information were exchanged via Europol channels, and together with the coordinated efforts of over 700 investigators, 38 arrests were made in three countries. In 2004 Europol was authorized as an international entity to access INTERPOL's encrypted communications system (I-24/7) and databases. In 2007 INTERPOL opened a liaison office in Europol headquarters to strengthen ongoing collaboration between the two police organizations. Europol also has strategic agreements with WCO and UNODC.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

Europol is an observer of AMERIPOL.

Legally binding regional instruments

- As an EU agency, all EU legally binding instruments apply to Europol.

Other official documents of interest


PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members*

- Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom

Bold: founding member

Former members: None

Membership pending: Pending EU memberships are the same for Europol: Croatia (acceding); Iceland, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey (all candidates).

* Information accurate as of 26 April 2012
Name
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

Headquarters
Brussels, Belgium

Web site
www.nato.int; www.namsa.nato.int; www.msiac.nato.int

Short description
NATO is a political and military alliance. Its primary purpose is to safeguard the freedom and security of its members through political and security means.

Membership
28 members (all UN member states)

Notes
Twelve countries (or ‘Allies’, as NATO refers to its members) comprised NATO when the organization was created in 1949. Its membership has grown on six separate occasions: first in 1952 with the addition of Greece and Turkey, and most recently in 2009 with the inclusion of Albania and Croatia. As of May 2012 Macedonia and Montenegro participate in NATO’s Membership Action Plan, which is a prelude to becoming an Ally, but does not guarantee accession. NATO has 41 global partners, including the PIF, the Mediterranean Dialogue, the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative, and other countries with which NATO has concluded security agreements.

Funding
NATO’s 28 Allies cover operating costs for the organization’s civil and military budgets, and the Security Investment Programme through assessed contributions. Dues from four members—the US, Germany, the UK, and France—cover more than half of this total. Voluntary funding—including from non-NATO Allies—supports many activities. For example, Canada, the EU, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, the UK, and the US have all contributed more than a million euros each to PoA-related NATO Trust Fund projects that promote small arms PSSM and destruction (some of which included land mines).

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
NATO members represent:
- 21 of 27 EU members (Albania, Canada, Croatia, Norway, Turkey, and the United States are not EU members)
- 28 of 56 OSCE members

PoA POC
Name: Mike Urban
Title: Officer, SALW Office, Arms Control and Coordination Section, Political Affairs and Security Policy Division

PoA-related activities
NATO addressed PoA concerns prior to 2001. Examples include a 1997 manual on safely storing military ammunition and explosives, and the Ad Hoc Working Group on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Mine Action established in 1999, which engages donors and recipients. It shares experiences and expertise to counter the threats posed by the illicit trade in small arms. It has convened workshops to counter the illicit proliferation of MANPADS (in 2007) and to combat the illicit brokering of small arms (in 2009). Subsequent to the PoA, the NATO Trust Fund was expanded to support three PoA-related activities: (1) the destruction of surplus small arms and their munitions; (2) PSSM of this same material; and (3) the retraining and resettlement of military personnel. NATO has also conducted a number of weapons collection and destruction programmes in the Balkans. NAMSA has implemented NATO Trust Fund projects in more than ten countries, providing technical and managerial expertise. MSIAC collates data on accidents involving munitions, sharing information and analysis.
with those Allies funding this initiative, and providing best-practice guidance on transport and storage to all 28 Allies and 41 partners. The NATO School offers two courses on small-arms-related issues. Civil society organizations help instruct students (mid- and high-level military and foreign affairs career officers) from both Allied and partner countries. In 2011 NATO’s 50-member EAPC initiated a structured information exchange (SIE) on ongoing small arms projects to aid cooperation and help avoid the duplication of efforts. EAPC is extending this initiative and developing the matrix.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
NATO co-hosted a conference with the OSCE in 2008 on ROs and the PoA. Since 2010 NAMSA, the EU, the OSCE, SEESAC, and UNDP have met once a year to coordinate their small-arms-related projects. They participated actively in the above-mentioned SIE.

Legally binding regional instruments
- None

Other official documents of interest
- EAPC Workshop on Combating Illicit Brokering in Small Arms and Light Weapons (2009)
- EAPC Workshop on Clearing Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) with a Focus on Cluster Munitions (2010)
- EAPC Structured Information Exchange on Projects Pertaining to SALW and Ammunition (2011)

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members
Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States

Former members
None

Membership pending
Macedonia, Montenegro

* Information accurate as of 16 May 2012
Name
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

Headquarters
Vienna, Austria

Web site
www.osce.org

Short description
The OSCE addresses a wide range of security-related concerns, including arms control, confidence- and security-building measures, human rights, national minorities, democratization, policing strategies, counter-terrorism, and economic and environmental activities.

Membership
56 members (55 are UN member states)

Notes
The OSCE’s predecessor, the CSCE, was established in 1975 with 35 states having signed the Helsinki Final Act. Its original purpose was to serve as a multilateral forum for dialogue and negotiation between East and West; however, in response to the changes in the post-cold war era, the organization became the OSCE in 1994. The Holy See is the only non-UN member state. It is the largest regional organization under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter. The OSCE also has 12 Partners for Cooperation, who can observe meetings and share special or formal relations with the OSCE: Afghanistan, Algeria, Australia, Egypt, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Mongolia, Morocco, South Korea, Thailand, and Tunisia.

Funding
Participating states agree a modest unified budget based on two scales of assessed contributions (for institutions and field operations). Most of the unified budget funding goes to field activities. In 2012 the unified budget was EUR 148 million. Many key initiatives and projects are funded through extra-budgetary contributions of participating states and partners. On small arms destruction and stockpile management security alone, participating states pledged over EUR 20 million in extra-budgetary contributions during 2005–11, with the United States being the largest donor.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
OSCE members represent:
- 9 of 9 CIS members
- 27 of 27 EU members
- 28 of 28 NATO members
- 31 of 46 RCC members

PoA POC
Name: Maria Brandstetter
Title: Confidence- and Security-Building Measures Officer, Conflict Prevention Centre

PoA-related activities
The OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons (2000) is a politically binding agreement in which OSCE states agreed to norms, principles, and measures to control each stage in a weapon’s life: production, transfer, storage, collection or seizure, and destruction. The OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation developed a best-practice handbook that was translated into several languages. In 2004 a series of export control-related decisions were adopted, including on control of brokering, standard elements for end-user certificates, and export control of MANPADS (updated in 2008). In May 2010 OSCE states adopted a plan of action aimed at improving the implementation of existing measures and enhancing norms, measures, and principles on small arms. The OSCE and UN reporting templates on small arms were harmonized in 2011. The OSCE collects (and assists in the collection of), analyses, and archives the regular information exchanges on the legislative aspects of small arms control including export policy, brokering controls, as well as annual information on small arms that were imported, exported, and destroyed during the previous year.
It also organizes regular activities, including training for licensing and customs agencies; legislative assistance; and providing practical assistance on destruction and stockpile management. Over 40 requests from 16 participating states have been addressed since 2003, for which about EUR 20 million were contributed. The OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, regularly addresses issues related to integrated border management, including small arms.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

In 2010–11 the OSCE placed a strong emphasis on regional cooperation, providing several examples in its 2010 annual report. Since 2010 the OSCE, NAMSA, the EU, and SEESAC, have met at least once a year to coordinate projects.

Legally binding regional instruments

- None

Other official documents of interest

- Decision to Treat Destruction as the Preferred Method of Disposal of Conventional Ammunition (2011); Decision Introducing Best Practices to Prevent Destabilizing Transfers of SALW through Air Transport and an Associated Questionnaire
- Guiding tools such as the OSCE Handbook of Best Practices on SALW (2003), on Conventional Ammunition (2008), and at Border Crossings (2012); and Template for End-user Certificates (2011)
**RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation**

**Headquarters**
Zagreb (Bestovje), Croatia

**Web site**
www.racviac.org

**Short description**
RACVIAC fosters dialogue and cooperation on security matters in South-east Europe, targeting three overarching themes: a cooperative security environment, with a focus on arms control; SSR; and international and regional cooperation with a focus on Euro-Atlantic integration.

**Membership**
10 members (all UN member states)

**Notes**
Within the framework of the Stability Pact (see RCC entry), RACVIAC was established in October 2000. In 2007, it became the ‘Centre for Security Cooperation’ and after a three-year process, a new agreement and legal status was established in 2010. The new agreement entered into force in December 2011 upon its fifth ratification. Bulgaria, however, has not yet signed the new agreement. The Multinational Advisory Group, its decision-making body, is made up of its members, 14 associates, and six observers. Associate members are Austria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, the Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. Observers are Canada, Moldova, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine, and the United States.

**Funding**
RACVIAC’s budget, which is divided into two parts—operating and programme—is approximately EUR 600,000. Members primarily finance the operating or daily running costs. Associate members, international partners, and other donors cover a large part of the programme budget through general or marked contributions.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
RACVIAC members represent:
- 6 of 12 BSEC members
- 3 of 27 EU members
- 6 of 28 NATO members
- 10 of 56 OSCE members
- 10 of 13 SELEC members

**PoA POC**
Name: Capt. Marija Čičak
Title: Public Affairs Officer
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Email: mcicak@racviac.org
Phone: +385-1-3330-809

**PoA-related activities**
RACVIAC organizes and hosts seminars, workshops, courses, symposiums, conferences, and meetings on regional security issues, among them SSR, confidence-building measures, arms control, physical stockpile management, organized crime, and dual-use items. These activities are open to its members, associates, and observers, as well as other countries, international organizations, and institutions. For example, in 2011, RACVIAC held a three-day symposium on arms control. Thirty-four participants representing ministries, political institutions, and organizations from nine countries and international organizations attended the event. Also in 2011, RACVIAC hosted a three-day conference entitled ‘Towards a Sustainable Solution for Excess Weapons and Ammunition: Policy, Logistical and Financial Aspects of Excess Weapons and Ammunition Disposal’.

The event brought together 31 representatives (from 6 countries and 5 organizations) of logistics, policy/planning, and finance departments in ministries of defence within the region, giving them an opportunity to exchange information and experiences. The event raised awareness and a paper was issued as a result.
PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

RACVIAC supports regional members with EU and NATO accession. RACVIAC regularly cooperates with the RCC, SEESAC, and a number of other regional organizations and initiatives. It is a member of the RASR Steering Committee. RACVIAC also cooperates regularly with the OSCE.

Legally binding regional instruments
- None

Other official documents of interest
- Terms of Reference for the Multinational Advisory Group (MAG) for RACVIAC (2007)
- Agreement on RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation (2010)

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

* Information accurate as of 8 June 2012

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<th>Current members*</th>
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<tr>
<td>Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Turkey</td>
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</table>

**Bold:** founding member

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Former members: Moldova</th>
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</table>

| Membership pending: None |
Name
Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

Headquarters
Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Web site
www.rcc.int; www.seesac.org

Short description
The RCC promotes mutual cooperation in and the European and Euro-Atlantic integration of South-east Europe, focusing on economic and social development, infrastructure and justice and home affairs, and security cooperation, among other areas.

Membership
46 members (31 are UN member states)

Notes
The Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe (1999–2008), which was part of a long-term conflict prevention strategy for the Balkans, was the predecessor of the RCC. The RCC was officially launched in February 2008. The RCC operates under the latter’s political guidance. There are 27 RCC board members: Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, the EU, Germany, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, UNMBK, and the United States. The 15 non-state members comprise five UN bodies (including IOM), six inter-governmental organizations, and four development banks.

Funding
RCC members that contribute to the budget of the Secretariat make up the RCC board, which has 27 members (as of May 2012). States of the region itself contribute 40 per cent of the RCC budget. The European Commission supplies 30 per cent and other RCC members finance the remaining 30 per cent. The EU, Norway, the Swedish Armed Forces, and UNDP fund most of the current projects of the South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearing-house for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC).

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
RCC members represent:
• 19 of 27 EU members (the EU itself is also represented as an RCC member)
• 21 of 28 NATO members
• 31 of 56 OSCE members

PoA POC
Name: Ivan Zverzhanovski
Title: Team Leader, SEESAC
Email: Ivan.Zverzhanovski@undp.org
Phone: +381-11-344-6353

PoA-related activities
The development and implementation of the Regional Implementation Plan on Combating the Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (1999 and revised in 2006) has been one of the Stability Pact’s main achievements in the area of small arms. In May 2002 the RCC (as the Stability Pact) and UNDP launched SEESAC, with the mandate to function as a component of the Regional Implementation Plan. SEESAC, through its team leader, serves as the technical point of contact for the RCC’s small arms work. It supports strengthening national and regional capacity to control and reduce the proliferation and misuse of small arms. Since 2003 SEESAC has developed and revised a series of Regional Micro-disarmament Standards and Guidelines. SEESAC activities are constantly changing to adapt to the current needs and capacities of local governments and other stakeholders. Currently, SEESAC’s work is focused on several areas of small arms: destruction, collection, and awareness-raising campaigns; storage upgrades; storage management training; marking, tracing, and registration; and arms export control. The RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011–2013 reiterates SEESAC’s mandate to implement
holistic small arms control programmes, with an emphasis on cross-border control, legislative and regulatory issues, management information, surveys, awareness and communications strategy, collection and destruction programmes, and stockpile management issues.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

The EU, NATO, the OSCE, and SELEC are RCC members. The RCC provides political support to SEPCA, SELEC, and RACVIAC (until December 2011 the latter was a project under the Stability Pact). SEESAC and RACVIAC work together as part of the Steering Committee for the RASR initiative.

Legally binding regional instruments

- None

Other official documents of interest

- Revised Stability Pact Regional Implementation Plan for Combating the Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons in South East Europe (2006)
- Regional Micro-disarmament Standards on the subjects of: National Commissions; Legislation; Export Documentation; Marking and Tracing; Management; Accounting; Monitoring; Verification; Collection; Destruction Planning; Destruction; Storage; Ammunition Storage; Accident Investigations; Ammunition Management; EOD Clearance of Ammunition Depot Explosions; EOD Support; Border Controls; SALW Survey; Safer Community Plans; Development of Awareness Programmes; Children; Gender; Education
- Regional Steering Group for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in South East Europe (2005)
Regional Organizations and the PoA

Name
South-east European Law Enforcement Centre (SELEC)

Headquarters
Bucharest, Romania

Web site
www.selec.org

Short description
SELEC supports and enhances coordination among member states in preventing and combating crime, including serious and organized crime, where such crime involves or appears to involve an element of trans-border activity.

Membership
13 members (all UN member states)

Notes
The South-east European Cooperative Initiative Regional Centre for Combating Trans-border Crime (SECI Center), SELEC’s predecessor, was established in 1996 to focus on regional cooperation among the countries of South-east Europe. SELEC replaced SECI in 2011. There are 17 observer states, 5 observer organizations, and 2 permanent advisers: INTERPOL and the WCO. The United States and Italy have liaison officers based at SELEC headquarters.

Funding
Articles 35 and 36 of the SELEC Convention state that the SELEC budget shall be established on an annual basis, based on contributions from member states and other external sources. The contribution is based on an assessed percentage.

Observer states generally provide modest contributions. The United States has provided about USD 15 million in direct grants and equipment since 1996. Small-arms-related activities come under the Anti-Terrorism Task Force and are financed by the core budget.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
SELEC members represent:
- 13 of 56 OSCE members
- 8 of 28 NATO members
- 13 of 46 RCC members

PoA-related activities
The SELEC Convention entered into force in 2011 when the ninth state party to the Agreement on Cooperation to Prevent and Combat Trans-border Crime ratified the instrument. All members have since ratified it. SELEC supports crime prevention activity in member states; facilitates exchanges of information, criminal intelligence, and requests for operational assistance; maintains a computerized information system; notifies and informs NFPs of connections between suspects, criminals, or crimes; collects, analyses, and disseminates information and criminal intelligence; provides strategic analysis to produce relevant threat assessments; establishes, operates, and maintains a computerized information system; acts as a depository of good practice in law enforcement methods and techniques; and implements multinational training and conferences. It also promotes joint planning and action on trans-border crime. Operational activities are conducted within the frames of eight task forces. In particular, the issue of small arms is one of three sub-groups under the Anti-Terrorism Task Force, established in
2003 and coordinated by Albania. Five states participated in Operation Ploughshares (2002, 6 months), which produced data on the trafficking of 493 small arms and just under 20,000 rounds of ammunition. Eight members participated in Operation Safe Place (2004, 6 months), which yielded 3,423 seizures of small arms units, 400,000 rounds of ammunition, and more than 30,000 artillery shells and identified individuals and groups engaged in the illegal trade, transfer, and possession of small arms. Both exercises led to improved reporting on small arms trafficking and data useful for analyzing trafficking patterns.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

Agreements and memoranda of understanding signed with RO partners, including the RCC and SEESAC, the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre, the OSCE, the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development.

Legally binding regional instruments

- Convention of the South-east European Law Enforcement Centre: Agreement on Cooperation to Prevent and Combat Trans-border Crime (2009)

Other official documents of interest

- None

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

- Current members: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Turkey
- Former members: None
- Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 4 June 2012
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<td>Oceania Customs Organization (OCO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICP</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police (PICP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIF</td>
<td>Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)</td>
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</table>
**Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook**

**Name**
Oceania Customs Organization (OCO)

**Headquarters**
Suva, Fiji

**Web site**
www.ocosec.org

**Short description**
OCO promotes the effectiveness and efficiency of its members’ customs administrations. It coordinates and fosters cooperation, communication, and assistance among its members, and between its members and private sector bodies, as well as with international organizations.

**Membership**
24 members (15 are UN member states)

**Notes**
OCO was established in 1999 with 23 members. The Customs Head of Administration Regional Meeting (CHARM), which has met annually since 1986, decided in 1998 to disband and that OCO should take its place. OCO’s Secretariat, first based in Brisbane and then in Noumea, moved to Suva—its expected permanent location—in 2006. Timor-Leste joined OCO in May 2011, becoming the organization’s 24th member.

**Funding**
The OCO Secretariat reports that it is obliged not to disclose details of contributions from members or donors. However, the core budget of the Secretariat is funded by Australia and New Zealand, and a small portion comes from the rest of the members as annual contributions. Public reports have noted that in December 2011 the EU provided OCO with a multimillion euro grant.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCO members represent:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>■ 3 of 21 APEC members (Australia, New Caledonia, and Papua New Guinea are APEC members)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ 21 of 21 PICP members (OCO members Norfolk Island, Timor-Leste, and Wallis and Futuna are not PICP members)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ 16 of 16 PIF members (PICP members American Samoa, CNMI, French Polynesia, Guam, and New Caledonia, are not PIF members)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PoA POC**

**Name:** Clement Taipala  
**Title:** Law Enforcement and Security Adviser  
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**Email:** ClementT@ocosec.org  
**Fax:** +679-331-3126

**PoA-related activities**
OCO’s Law Enforcement and Security Division (LES), established in 2009, promotes and facilitates information sharing and provides technical assistance, training, and policy advice to develop its members’ customs services. To enhance border security in the region, in 2010 LES developed an OCO Small Craft Movement Reporting Framework with other regional bodies and actors, as well as managing the Customs Regional Intelligence Network (CRIN) reporting. In support of its 2011–13 Strategic Plan, OCO acknowledged that the unlawful importation of firearms, ammunition, and their parts remains an important issue for the customs community to address. CRIN and the Small Craft Movement Reporting Framework are instrumental tools towards this end.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

OCO worked in partnership with the SPC and the Government of New Zealand in developing the Small Craft Movement Reporting Framework. OCO also works with the Forum Regional Security Council (which includes PIF, the PIDC, the PICP, and the SPC) to share information and develop supportive strategies.
Legally binding regional instruments

- None

Other official documents of interest

- None

PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members*
American Samoa, Australia, CNMI, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Norfolk Island, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna

Bold: founding member

Former members: None

Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 17 May 2012
Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook

Name
Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police (PICP)

Headquarters
Wellington, New Zealand

Web site
www.picp.org

Short description
The PICP facilitates training of its members’ police forces and seeks to improve information sharing and cooperation among them to enhance their three broad strategies of ethics and integrity, regional cooperation, and sustainable capacity development.

Membership
21 members (14 are UN member states)

Notes
The PICP has its origins with the South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference (SPCPC), which was created in 1970. The original members were British Solomon Islands (now Solomon Islands), Fiji, Gilbert and Ellice Islands (now Kiribati and Tuvalu, respectively), Nauru, New Hebrides (now Vanuatu), and Tonga. The SPCPC’s membership had expanded to 16 by the end of the 1970s, while five additional states joined between 1990 and 1992. The organization assumed its current name in 2005 to better reflect the composition of its membership. The PICP suspended Fiji in December 2006.

Funding
The PICP is funded by the New Zealand Aid Programme, New Zealand Police, and Australian Federal Police. The organization has received supplemental support from the US government for its armouries project.

Overlapping memberships with other ROs
PICP members represent:

- 21 of 24 OCO members (Norfolk Island, Timor-Leste, and Wallis and Futuna are not PICP members)
- 16 of 16 PIF members (American Samoa, CNMI, French Polynesia, Guam, and New Caledonia are not PIF members)

PoA POC
Name: Dave Potaka
Title: Secretariat Officer
☎ +64-4-470-7358
✉ dave.potaka@police.govt.nz
☎ +64-4-470-7103

PoA-related activities
The PICP has been training the region’s police forces for 40 years and promoting best practices and information sharing to promote law and order and combat transnational crime. Besides possessing expertise and providing frameworks for meetings, seminars, and working groups, the Secretariat also assists its members with generating financial support for their programmes and initiatives. During the 1980s and 1990s, 12 PICP members received 22 patrol boats under PICP auspices to help protect these countries’ fisheries. In 2005 the PICP worked with nine of these recipients’ police forces to use these PICP-procured patrol boats for broader law enforcement purposes and to share information among their police forces, as well as other bodies, including customs, the military, and immigration. A more recent project of particular relevance to the PoA concerns strengthening the region’s stockpile management practices. The PICP reviewed the safety of its members’ police armouries and identified those most in need of enhancement. It obtained financial support to upgrade depots in six of its members. As of August 2011 new sales
had been installed in, or structures built for, five members’ police services: Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Niue, and Tuvalu. The PICP has drafted and shared a model armoury and firearms policy for the recipients of this equipment and new buildings.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**

The PICP participates in the Working Group on Border Management Issues (WGBMI) and the Working Group on Information Sharing (WGSIM) (comprising representatives from four other regional organizations: OCO, the Pacific Immigration Directors Conference (PIDC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), and the PIF Secretariat (PIFS)). Working group meetings discuss mechanisms and processes that Pacific police forces can use to share information on all crime types, including firearms offences.

**Legally binding regional instruments**

- None

**Other official documents of interest**

- None

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**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

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- **Current members**: American Samoa, Australia, CNMI, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
  - **Bold**: founding member
  - **Yellow**: suspended member

- **Former members**: None

- **Membership pending**: None

* Information accurate as of 4 May 2012
### Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)

**Name**
Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)

**Headquarters**
Suva, Fiji

**Web site**
www.forumsec.org

**Short description**
PIF seeks to stimulate economic growth and enhance political governance and security for its members by providing policy advice, and strengthening regional cooperation and integration.

**Membership**
16 members (14 are UN member states)

**Funding**
All PIF members and associates contribute to the regular budget. Australia and New Zealand together contribute about 75 per cent of the dues. Papua New Guinea pays the third-largest assessment: about 5 per cent. Members’ assessed contributions represent a small percentage of the overall operating budget. External supplemental support for PoA-related activities has come from Australia, New Zealand, and Japan.

**Notes**
PIF began as the South Pacific Forum in 1971 with seven members. It changed its name in 2000 to reflect its expanded membership. The organization’s secretariat—the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)—took its current name that same year (replacing the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Cooperation, known as SPEC). Besides its 16 members, it has two associate members: French Polynesia and New Caledonia.

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**
PIF members represent:
- 16 of 24 OCO members (American Samoa, CNMI, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Norfolk Island, Timor-Leste, and Wallis and Futuna are not PIF members)
- 16 of 21 PICP members (American Samoa, CNMI, French Polynesia, Guam, and New Caledonia are not PIF members)

**PoA POC**

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Title: Regional Security Advisor
Phone: +679-322-0390
Email: IoaneA@forumsec.org.fj
Phone: +679-322-0240

**PoA-related activities**
The Forum Regional Security Committee (FRSC) serves as the principal PIF body for addressing regional law enforcement and security issues. It was tasked in 1996 to explore options to combat arms proliferation in the region. The FRSC, building on the Honiara and Aitutaki Declarations (which promote regional cooperation in law enforcement and security), oversaw the development of the document Towards a Common Approach to Weapons Control, known as the Nadi Framework, which establishes principles, objectives, and guidelines for PIF members to consider adopting and led to the Model Weapons Control Bill in 2003. Under the framework of the Biketawa Declaration (the framework for regional crisis management and conflict resolution), PIF members in 2003 undertook the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI). In 2008 PIF established a committee to formally provide oversight and governance of RAMSI operations. RAMSI collected several thousand weapons and initiated many SSR activities, including police training. Some of the weapons collected have been destroyed. More recently, in 2009, the FRSC established a Working Group for Strengthening Information Management (WGSIM).
ROs coordinate efforts to enhance national effectiveness toward these ends. In 2010 the FRSC amended the 2003 Model Weapons Control Bill to include brokering provisions, and forum leaders endorsed the PoA Regional Implementation Guidelines, which included the provision of technical assistance to members (within available resources).

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
PIFS has long worked with ROs such as the PICP and OCO in a number of security-related activities. OCO and the PICP collaborated with PIFS in developing the Nadi Framework and the PIF Model Weapons Control Bill. These two regional bodies, plus several others (including the FFA, PIDC, PTCCC, and SPC) participate in FRSC meetings on law enforcement and security threats and collaborate on a number of law enforcement initiatives. PIFS chairs an annual meeting of this grouping to: (1) coordinate and prioritize activities; and (2) develop the Pacific Transnational Crime Assessment, which identifies current and emerging transnational crime trends.

Legally binding regional instruments
- None

Other official documents of interest
- Honiara Declaration on Law Enforcement Cooperation (1992)
- Aitutaki Declaration on Regional Security Cooperation (1997)
- Biketawa Declaration (2000)
- Nasonini Declaration on Regional Security (2002)
- PoA Regional Implementation Guidelines (2010)
- PIFS Model Weapons Control Bill (2003; amended 2010)

PoA-related programmes and initiatives
- None

Current members*
Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

Bold: founding member
Yellow: suspended member

Former members: None
Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 2 June 2012
PART III

Annexes
Annexe 1. Members of the profiled regional organizations

**UN member states (193):**
Afghanistan  
Albania  
Algeria  
Andorra  
Angola  
Antigua and Barbuda  
Argentina  
Armenia  
Australia  
Austria  
Azerbaijan  
Bahamas  
Bahrain  
Bangladesh  
Barbados  
Belarus  
Belgium  
Belize  
Benin  
Bhutan  
Bolivia  
Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)  
Botswana  
Brazil  
Brunei  
Bulgaria  
Burkina Faso  
Burundi  
Cambodia  
Cameroon  
Canada  
Cape Verde  
Central African Republic (CAR)  
Chad  
Chile  
China  
Colombia  
Comoros  
Congo  
Costa Rica  
Côte d’Ivoire  
Croatia  
Cuba  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)  
Denmark  
Djibouti  
Dominica  
Dominican Republic  
Ecuador  
Egypt  
El Salvador  
Equatorial Guinea  
Eritrea  
Estonia  
Ethiopia  
Fiji  
Finland  
France  
Gabon  
Gambia  
Georgia  
Germany  
Ghana  
Greece  
Grenada  
Guatemala  
Guinea  
Guinea-Bissau  
Guyana  
Haiti  
Honduras  
Hungary  
Iceland  
India  
Indonesia  
Iran  
Iraq  
Ireland  
Israel  
Italy  
Jamaica  
Japan  
Jordan  
Kazakhstan  
Kenya  
Kiribati  
Kuwait  
Kyrgyzstan  
Laos  
Latvia  
Lebanon  
Lesotho  
Liberia  
Libya  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Macedonia  
Madagascar  
Malawi  
Malaysia  
Maldives  
Mali  
Malta  
Marshall Islands  
Mauritania  
Mauritius  
Mexico  
Micronesia  
Moldova  
Monaco  
Mongolia  
Montenegro  
Morocco  
Mozambique  
Myanmar  
Namibia  
Nauru  
Nepal  
Netherlands  
New Zealand  
Nicaragua  
Niger  
Nigeria  
North Korea  
Norway  
Oman  
Pakistan  
Palau  
Panama  
Papua New Guinea  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Philippines  
Poland  
Portugal  
Qatar  
Romania  
Russian Federation (RF)  
Rwanda  
St. Kitts and Nevis  
St. Lucia  
St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG)  
Samoa  
San Marino  
São Tomé and Príncipe  
Saudi Arabia  
Senegal  
Serbia  
Seychelles  
Sierra Leone  
Singapore  
Singapore  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Solomon Islands  
Somalia  
South Africa  
South Korea  
South Sudan  
Spain  
Sri Lanka  
Sudan  
Suriname  
Swaziland  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Syria  
Tajikistan  
Tanzania  
Thailand  
Timor-Leste  
Togo  
Tonga  
Trinidad and Tobago  
Tunisia  
Turkey  
Turkmenistan  
Tuvalu  
Uganda  
Ukraine  
United Arab Emirates (UAE)  
United Kingdom  
United States  
Uruguay  
Uzbekistan  
Vanuatu  
Venezuela  
Vietnam  
Yemen  
Zambia  
Zimbabwe
Non-UN member states, territories, and economies (16):

- American Samoa
- Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)
- Cook Islands
- French Polynesia
- Guam
- Holy See
- Hong Kong
- Montserrat
- New Caledonia
- Niue
- Norfolk Island
- Palestinian Territories
- Puerto Rico
- Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR)
- Taiwan
- Wallis and Futuna

Organizations, banks, and institutions (15):

- Council of Europe
- Council of Europe Development Bank (CEDB)
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
- European Investment Bank (EIB)
- European Union (EU)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
- Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre (SELEC)
- United Nations (UN)
- UN Development Programme (UNDP)
- UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- UN Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK)
- World Bank
### Annexe 2. Membership of profiled regional organizations by region

**As of 1 July 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROs</th>
<th>AU</th>
<th>ECPAC</th>
<th>CEEAC</th>
<th>CEMAC</th>
<th>CEN-SAD</th>
<th>CEPGL</th>
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<th>EAC</th>
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Notes: * Réunion (France) is part of the COI; • = founding members; ○ = current but non-founding members; ◊ = current but suspended members; ◇ = former members; ▼ = membership pending
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Total current members: 54

UN member states from Africa (54)
Regional Organizations and the PoA

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROs</th>
<th>Antigua and Barbuda</th>
<th>Argentina</th>
<th>Bahamas</th>
<th>Barbados</th>
<th>Belize</th>
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Total memberships of ROs: 2 4 2 2 3 4 4 1 3 4 3 2 2 2 4 3 2

Notes: * AMERIPOL membership is made up of police corps, with Costa Rica and Panama each represented by two corps.
● = founding members; ● = current but non-founding members; ● = current but suspended members; ● = former members; ● = membership pending
### UN member states from the Americas (35)

| Guatemala | Guyana | Haiti | Honduras | Jamaica | Mexico | Nicaragua | Panama | Paraguay | Peru | St. Kitts and Nevis | St. Lucia | Suriname | SVG | Trinidad and Tobago | United States | Uruguay | Venezuela | Montserrat | Puerto Rico | Total current members |
|-----------|--------|-------|----------|---------|--------|-----------|--------|----------|------|---------------------|-----------|----------|-----|----------------------|----------------|---------|----------|------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|
| ●         | ●      | ●     | ●        | ●       | ●      | ●         | ●      | ●        | ●    | ●                   | ●         | ●        | ●   | ●                    | ●             | ●       | ●        | ●          | ●          | 24          |
| ●         | ●      | ●     | ●        | ●       | ●      | ●         | ●      | ●        | ●    | ●                   | ●         | ●        | ●   | ●                    | ●             | ●       | ●        | ●          | ●          | 4           |
| ●         | ●      | ●     | ●        | ●       | ●      | ●         | ●      | ●        | ●    | ●                   | ●         | ●        | ●   | ●                    | ●             | ●       | ●        | ●          | ●          | 15          |
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### Other

- Montserrat
- Puerto Rico
### Regional Organizations and the PoA

#### Countries

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#### Regional Organizations (ROs)

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#### Total memberships of ROs

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Notes: * Besides Egypt and Morocco, eight other UN member states from Africa are also members of LAS: Algeria, Comoros, Djibouti, Libya, Mauritania, Somalia, Sudan, and Tunisia.  
● = founding members; ● = current but non-founding members; ● = current but suspended members; ● = former members; ● = membership pending
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### Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook

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Notes: * In addition to the 31 UN member states, RCC members include 15 international organizations and bodies.  
  - **●** = founding members;  
  - ● = current but non-founding members;  
  - ○ = current but suspended members;  
  - □ = former members;  
  - ▲ = membership pending
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### Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook

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**Total memberships of ROs**: 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 2 2 3 3 2 2 3 3 1 1 1

**Notes:** ● = founding members; ● = current but non-founding members; ● = current but suspended members; ● = former members; ● = membership pending
Annexe 3. UN member states' membership of profiled regional organizations

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Annexe 3. UN member states’ membership of profiled regional organizations

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Key:
- Founding member
- Subsequent member
- Suspended member
- Former member
- Membership pending
Annexe 4. UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

(UN Document A/CONF.192/15)

Available online in English, as well as in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish, at: http://poa-iss.org/PoA/PoA.aspx

I. Preamble

1. We, the States participating in the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, having met in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001,

2. Gravely concerned about the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and their excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world, which have a wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences and pose a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels,

3. Concerned also by the implications that poverty and underdevelopment may have for the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

4. Determined to reduce the human suffering caused by the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and to enhance the respect for life and the dignity of the human person through the promotion of a culture of peace,

5. Recognizing that the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects sustains conflicts, exacerbates violence, contributes to the displacement of civilians, undermines respect for international humanitarian law, impedes the provision of humanitarian assistance to victims of armed conflict and fuels crime and terrorism,

6. Gravely concerned about its devastating consequences on children, many of whom are victims of armed conflict or are forced to become child soldiers, as well as the negative impact on women and the elderly, and in this context, taking into account the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on children,

7. Concerned also about the close link between terrorism, organized crime, trafficking in drugs and precious minerals and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, and stressing the urgency of international efforts and cooperation aimed at combating this trade simultaneously from both a supply and demand perspective,

8. Reaffirming our respect for and commitment to international law and the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including the sovereign equality of States, territorial integrity, the peaceful resolution of international disputes, non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States,

9. Reaffirming the inherent right to individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,

10. Reaffirming the right of each State to manufacture, import and retain small arms and light weapons for its self-defence and security needs, as well as for its capacity to participate in peacekeeping operations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

11. Reaffirming the right of self-determination of all peoples, taking into account the particular situation of peoples under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, and recognizing the right of peoples to take legitimate action in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations to realize their inalienable right of self-determination. This shall not be construed as authorizing or encouraging any action that would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

12. Recalling the obligations of States to fully comply with arms embargoes decided by the United Nations Security Council in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

13. Believing that Governments bear the primary responsibility for preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and, accordingly, should intensify their efforts to define the problems associated with such trade and find ways of resolving them,

14. Stressing the urgent necessity for international cooperation and assistance, including financial and technical assistance, as appropriate, to support and facilitate efforts at the local, national, regional and global levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

15. Recognizing that the international community has a duty to deal with this issue, and acknowledging that the challenge posed by the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects is multi-faceted and involves, inter alia, security, conflict prevention and resolution, crime prevention, humanitarian, health and development dimensions,
16. Recognizing also the important contribution of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and industry in, inter alia, assisting Governments to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

17. Recognizing further that these efforts are without prejudice to the priorities accorded to nuclear disarmament, weapons of mass destruction and conventional disarmament,

18. Welcoming the efforts being undertaken at the global, regional, subregional, national and local levels to address the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and desiring to build upon them, taking into account the characteristics, scope and magnitude of the problem in each State or region,

19. Recalling the Millennium Declaration and also welcoming ongoing initiatives in the context of the United Nations to address the problem of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

20. Recognizing that the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, establishes standards and procedures that complement and reinforce efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

21. Convinced of the need for a global commitment to a comprehensive approach to promote, at the global, regional, subregional, national and local levels, the prevention, reduction and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects as a contribution to international peace and security,

22. Resolve therefore to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects by:

(a) Strengthening or developing agreed norms and measures at the global, regional and national levels that would reinforce and further coordinate efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

(b) Developing and implementing agreed international measures to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in small arms and light weapons;

(c) Placing particular emphasis on the regions of the world where conflicts come to an end and where serious problems with the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of small arms and light weapons have to be dealt with urgently;

(d) Mobilizing the political will throughout the international community to prevent and combat illicit transfers and manufacturing of small arms and light weapons in all their aspects, to cooperate towards these ends and to raise awareness of the character and seriousness of the interrelated problems associated with the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in these weapons;

(e) Promoting responsible action by States with a view to preventing the illicit export, import, transit and retransfer of small arms and light weapons.

II. Preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

1. We, the States participating in this Conference, bearing in mind the different situations, capacities and priorities of States and regions, undertake the following measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects:

At the national level

2. To put in place, where they do not exist, adequate laws, regulations and administrative procedures to exercise effective control over the production of small arms and light weapons within their areas of jurisdiction and over the export, import, transit or retransfer of such weapons, in order to prevent illegal manufacture of and illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, or their diversion to unauthorized recipients.

3. To adopt and implement, in the States that have not already done so, the necessary legislative or other measures to establish as criminal offences under their domestic law the illegal manufacture, possession, stockpiling and trade of small arms and light weapons within their areas of jurisdiction, in order to ensure that those engaged in such activities can be prosecuted under appropriate national penal codes.

4. To establish, or designate as appropriate, national coordination agencies or bodies and institutional infrastructure responsible for policy guidance, research and monitoring of efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects. This should include aspects of the illicit manufacture, control, trafficking, circulation, brokering and trade, as well as tracing, finance, collection and destruction of small arms and light weapons.

5. To establish or designate, as appropriate, a national point of contact to act as a liaison between States on matters relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action.

6. To identify, where applicable, groups and individuals engaged in the illegal manufacture, trade, stockpiling, transfer, possession, as well as financing for acquisition, of illicit small arms and light weapons, and take action under appropriate national law against such groups and individuals.
7. To ensure that henceforth licensed manufacturers apply an appropriate and reliable marking on each small arm and light weapon as an integral part of the production process. This marking should be unique and should identify the country of manufacture and also provide information that enables the national authorities of that country to identify the manufacturer and serial number so that the authorities concerned can identify and trace each weapon.

8. To adopt where they do not exist and enforce, all the necessary measures to prevent the manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and possession of any unmarked or inadequately marked small arms and light weapons.

9. To ensure that comprehensive and accurate records are kept for as long as possible on the manufacture, holding and transfer of small arms and light weapons under their jurisdiction. These records should be organized and maintained in such a way as to ensure that accurate information can be promptly retrieved and collated by competent national authorities.

10. To ensure responsibility for all small arms and light weapons held and issued by the State and effective measures for tracing such weapons.

11. To assess applications for export authorizations according to strict national regulations and procedures that cover all small arms and light weapons and are consistent with the existing responsibilities of States under relevant international law, taking into account in particular the risk of diversion of these weapons into the illegal trade. Likewise, to establish or maintain an effective national system of export and import licensing or authorization, as well as measures on international transit, for the transfer of all small arms and light weapons, with a view to combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

12. To put in place and implement adequate laws, regulations and administrative procedures to ensure the effective control over the export and transit of small arms and light weapons, including the use of authenticated end-user certificates and effective legal and enforcement measures.

13. To make every effort, in accordance with national laws and practices, without prejudice to the right of States to re-export small arms and light weapons that they have previously imported, to notify the original exporting State in accordance with their bilateral agreements before the retransfer of those weapons.

14. To develop adequate national legislation or administrative procedures regulating the activities of those who engage in small arms and light weapons brokering. This legislation or procedures should include measures such as registration of brokers, licensing or authorization of brokering transactions as well as the appropriate penalties for all illicit brokering activities performed within the State’s jurisdiction and control.

15. To take appropriate measures, including all legal or administrative means, against any activity that violates a United Nations Security Council arms embargo in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

16. To ensure that all confiscated, seized or collected small arms and light weapons are destroyed, subject to any legal constraints associated with the preparation of criminal prosecutions, unless another form of disposition or use has been officially authorized and provided that such weapons have been duly marked and registered.

17. To ensure, subject to the respective constitutional and legal systems of States, that the armed forces, police or any other body authorized to hold small arms and light weapons establish adequate and detailed standards and procedures relating to the management and security of their stocks of these weapons. These standards and procedures should, inter alia, relate to: appropriate locations for stockpiles; physical security measures; control of access to stocks; inventory management and accounting control; staff training; security, accounting and control of small arms and light weapons held or transported by operational units or authorized personnel; and procedures and sanctions in the event of thefts or loss.

18. To regularly review, as appropriate, subject to the respective constitutional and legal systems of States, the stocks of small arms and light weapons held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies and to ensure that such stocks declared by competent national authorities to be surplus to requirements are clearly identified, that programmes for the responsible disposal, preferably through destruction, of such stocks are established and implemented and that such stocks are adequately safeguarded until disposal.

19. To destroy surplus small arms and light weapons designated for destruction, taking into account, inter alia, the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on methods of destruction of small arms, light weapons, ammunition and explosives (S/2000/1092) of 15 November 2000.

20. To develop and implement, including in conflict and post-conflict situations, public awareness and confidence-building programmes on the problems and consequences of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, including, where appropriate, the public destruction of surplus weapons and the voluntary surrender of small arms and light weapons, if possible, in cooperation with civil society and non-governmental organizations, with a view to eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

21. To develop and implement, where possible, effective disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, including the effective collection, control, storage and destruction of small arms and light weapons, particularly in post-conflict situations, unless another form of disposition or use has been duly authorized and such weapons have been marked and the alternate form of disposition or use has been recorded, and to include, where applicable, specific provisions for these programmes in peace agreements.
22. To address the special needs of children affected by armed conflict, in particular the reunification with their family, their reintegration into civil society, and their appropriate rehabilitation.

23. To make public national laws, regulations and procedures that impact on the prevention, combating and eradicating of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and to submit, on a voluntary basis, to relevant regional and international organizations and in accordance with their national practices, information on, inter alia, (a) small arms and light weapons confiscated or destroyed within their jurisdiction; and (b) other relevant information such as illicit trade routes and techniques of acquisition that can contribute to the eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

At the regional level

24. To establish or designate, as appropriate, a point of contact within subregional and regional organizations to act as liaison on matters relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action.

25. To encourage negotiations, where appropriate, with the aim of concluding relevant legally binding instruments aimed at preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and where they do exist to ratify and fully implement them.

26. To encourage the strengthening and establishing, where appropriate and as agreed by the States concerned, of moratoria or similar initiatives in affected regions or subregions on the transfer and manufacture of small arms and light weapons, and/or regional action programmes to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and to respect such moratoria, similar initiatives, and/or action programmes and cooperate with the States concerned in the implementation thereof, including through technical assistance and other measures.

27. To establish, where appropriate, subregional or regional mechanisms, in particular trans-border customs cooperation and networks for information-sharing among law enforcement, border and customs control agencies, with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons across borders.

28. To encourage, where needed, regional and subregional action on illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects in order to, as appropriate, introduce, adhere, implement or strengthen relevant laws, regulations and administrative procedures.

29. To encourage States to promote safe, effective stockpile management and security, in particular physical security measures, for small arms and light weapons, and to implement, where appropriate, regional and subregional mechanisms in this regard.

30. To support, where appropriate, national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, particularly in post-conflict situations, with special reference to the measures agreed upon in paragraphs 28 to 31 of this section.

31. To encourage regions to develop, where appropriate and on a voluntary basis, measures to enhance transparency with a view to combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

At the global level

32. To cooperate with the United Nations system to ensure the effective implementation of arms embargoes decided by the United Nations Security Council in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

33. To request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, within existing resources, through the Department for Disarmament Affairs, to collate and circulate data and information provided by States on a voluntary basis and including national reports, on implementation by those States of the Programme of Action.

34. To encourage, particularly in post-conflict situations, the disarmament and demobilization of ex-combatants and their subsequent reintegration into civilian life, including providing support for the effective disposition, as stipulated in paragraph 17 of this section, of collected small arms and light weapons.

35. To encourage the United Nations Security Council to consider, on a case-by-case basis, the inclusion, where applicable, of relevant provisions for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration in the mandates and budgets of peacekeeping operations.

36. To strengthen the ability of States to cooperate in identifying and tracing in a timely and reliable manner illicit small arms and light weapons.

37. To encourage States and the World Customs Organization, as well as other relevant organizations, to enhance cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) to identify those groups and individuals engaged in the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects in order to allow national authorities to proceed against them in accordance with their national laws.

38. To encourage States to consider ratifying or acceding to international legal instruments against terrorism and transnational organized crime.

39. To develop common understandings of the basic issues and the scope of the problems related to illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the activities of those engaged in such brokering.

40. To encourage the relevant international and regional organizations and States to facilitate the appropriate cooperation of civil society, including non-governmental organizations,
in activities related to the prevention, combat and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, in view of the important role that civil society plays in this area.

41. To promote dialogue and a culture of peace by encouraging, as appropriate, education and public awareness programmes on the problems of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, involving all sectors of society.

III. Implementation, international cooperation and assistance

1. We, the States participating in the Conference, recognize that the primary responsibility for solving the problems associated with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects falls on all States. We also recognize that States need close international cooperation to prevent, combat and eradicate this illicit trade.

2. States undertake to cooperate and to ensure coordination, complementarity and synergy in efforts to deal with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects at the global, regional, subregional and national levels and to encourage the establishment and strengthening of cooperation and partnerships at all levels among international and intergovernmental organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and international financial institutions.

3. States and appropriate international and regional organizations in a position to do so should, upon request of the relevant authorities, seriously consider rendering assistance, including technical and financial assistance where needed, such as small arms funds, to support the implementation of the measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects as contained in the Programme of Action.

4. States and international and regional organizations should, upon request by the affected States, consider assisting and promoting conflict prevention. Where requested by the parties concerned, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, States and international and regional organizations should consider promotion and assistance of the pursuit of negotiated solutions to conflicts, including by addressing their root causes.

5. States and international and regional organizations should, where appropriate, cooperate, develop and strengthen partnerships to share resources and information on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

6. With a view to facilitating implementation of the Programme of Action, States and international and regional organizations should seriously consider assisting interested States, upon request, in building capacities in areas including the development of appropriate legislation and regulations, law enforcement, tracing and marking, stockpile management and security, destruction of small arms and light weapons and the collection and exchange of information.

7. States should, as appropriate, enhance cooperation, the exchange of experience and training among competent officials, including customs, police, intelligence and arms control officials, at the national, regional and global levels in order to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

8. Regional and international programmes for specialist training on small arms stockpile management and security should be developed. Upon request, States and appropriate international or regional organizations in a position to do so should support these programmes. The United Nations, within existing resources, and other appropriate international or regional organizations should consider developing capacity for training in this area.

9. States are encouraged to use and support, as appropriate, including by providing relevant information on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, Interpol’s International Weapons and Explosives Tracking System database or any other relevant database that may be developed for this purpose.

10. States are encouraged to consider international cooperation and assistance to examine technologies that would improve the tracing and detection of illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, as well as measures to facilitate the transfer of such technologies.

11. States undertake to cooperate with each other, including on the basis of the relevant existing global and regional legally binding instruments as well as other agreements and arrangements, and, where appropriate, with relevant international, regional and intergovernmental organizations, in tracing illicit small arms and light weapons, in particular by strengthening mechanisms based on the exchange of relevant information.

12. States are encouraged to exchange information on a voluntary basis on their national marking systems on small arms and light weapons.

13. States are encouraged, subject to their national practices, to enhance, according to their respective constitutional and legal systems, mutual legal assistance and other forms of cooperation in order to assist investigations and prosecutions in relation to the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

14. Upon request, States and appropriate international or regional organizations in a position to do so should provide assistance in the destruction or other responsible disposal of surplus stocks or unmarked or inadequately marked small arms and light weapons.

15. Upon request, States and appropriate international or regional organizations in a position to do so should provide assistance to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons linked to drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism.
16. Particularly in post-conflict situations, and where appropriate, the relevant regional and international organizations should support, within existing resources, appropriate programmes related to the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants.

17. With regard to those situations, States should make, as appropriate, greater efforts to address problems related to human and sustainable development, taking into account existing and future social and developmental activities, and should fully respect the rights of the States concerned to establish priorities in their development programmes.

18. States, regional and subregional and international organizations, research centres, health and medical institutions, the United Nations system, international financial institutions and civil society are urged, as appropriate, to develop and support action-oriented research aimed at facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of the problems associated with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

IV. Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

1. We, the States participating in the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, recommend to the General Assembly the following agreed steps to be undertaken for the effective follow-up of the Conference:

(a) To convene a conference no later than 2006 to review progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action, the date and venue to be decided at the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

(b) To convene a meeting of States on a biennial basis to consider the national, regional and global implementation of the Programme of Action;

(c) To undertake a United Nations study, within existing resources, for examining the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace in a timely and reliable manner illicit small arms and light weapons;

(d) To consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons.

2. Finally, we, the States participating in the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects:

(a) Encourage the United Nations and other appropriate international and regional organizations to undertake initiatives to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action;

(b) Also encourage all initiatives to mobilize resources and expertise to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action and to provide assistance to States in their implementation of the Programme of Action;

(c) Further encourage non-governmental organizations and civil society to engage, as appropriate, in all aspects of international, regional, subregional and national efforts to implement the present Programme of Action.
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