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<th>Acronym</th>
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<td>Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation</td>
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</table>
**Name**  
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 its 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 POC**

**Name:** Sergio Narea  
**Title:** Program Director, Counter-Terrorism Task Force (CTTF)

**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

- COUNT RY
- REPO RT

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)

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**PoA POC**

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**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).
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)
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

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: None

* Information accurate as of 6 May 2012
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 BISTEC 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 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-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

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PoA-related programmes and initiatives

Current members:
Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand

Bold: founding member

Former members: None

Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 12 May 2012
Regional Organizations and the PoA

### 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 POC

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**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
  - Bold: founding member

- Former members: None

- Membership pending: None

* Information accurate as of 13 June 2012
Name
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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Title: Director, Bureau for Coordination of the Fight against Organized Crime and Other Types of Dangerous Crimes on the Territory of the CIS Participating States

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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-
inition, 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)
Regional Organizations and the PoA

**Regional Organizations and the PoA**

**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.)

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**

- 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)

**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.

**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.)

**Overlapping memberships with other ROs**

- 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)

**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.

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**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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**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

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**Current members**
- Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

**Bold:** founding member

**Former members:** Azerbaijan, Georgia

**Membership pending:** None

* Information accurate as of 20 May 2012
Name
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)

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.

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

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-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

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Regional Organizations and the PoA
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)
**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.

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**PoA POC**

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Title: N/A

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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 POC**
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**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 International 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 SICO. As part of this effort, Moldova’s Ministry of Internal Affairs operates a joint GUAM–SICO 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)

**Current members**
- Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine

**Former members:** Uzbekistan

**Membership pending:** None

* Information accurate as of 8 June 2012
Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook

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
Name: Fadi Achaia
Title: Head of Conventional Arms Section, Department of Multilateral Relations

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)

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**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*
Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook

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)
Name
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 an 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).

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)