<table>
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<th>Acronym</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APEC</td>
<td>Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation</td>
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<td>Association of Southeast Asian Nations</td>
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<td>Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation</td>
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<td>CICA</td>
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<td>CIS</td>
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<td>GCC</td>
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<td>SCO</td>
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<td>Name</td>
<td>Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Headquarters</td>
<td>Singapore, Singapore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.apec.org">www.apec.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short description</strong></td>
<td>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, and the enhancing of human security.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Membership**

- 21 members
  (19 UN member states)

**Notes**

Twelve ‘member economies’ established APEC in 1989. Nine additional members joined between 1991 and 1998, including China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan, which joined as separate member economies in 1991. (Hong Kong is recognized by APEC as ‘Hong Kong, China’ and Taiwan as ‘Chinese Taipei’). APEC currently has 21 member economies, with no memberships pending. The moratorium on new members was lifted in 2010, with an agreement to review membership on an annual basis.

**Funding**

APEC member economies contribute to 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. PoA-related activities are funded from the Human Security Sub-Fund, together with health and energy security programmes and emergency preparedness activities. The budget for 2016 is USD 298,000.

**RO members and the ATT**

- **States parties:** 36% (5 states)
- **Signatories:** 37% (7 states)
- **Not yet joined:** 37% (7 states)

**Notes**

Australia, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, and Peru are states parties. Taiwan and Hong Kong are not UN member states and cannot join.

**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 Counter-Terrorism Task Force (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 the potential acquisition of MANPADS by terrorists 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’ efforts towards these ends. In 2004 APEC established guidelines on MANPADS domestic control measures (for example, regarding receipt, stockpiling, and storage).
and export control measures (for example, concerning decision making, retransfers, and diversion). Senior APEC officials endorsed a proposal to upgrade the CTTF to working group status (as the CTWG) in July 2013. According to the group’s strategic plan, the CTWG’s first mandate is scheduled to run from 2013 to 2017. In addition to the CTWG/CTTF, the Transportation Working Group (TPTWG) and its two expert groups on aviation and maritime security are also important forums for strengthening small arms counter-proliferation efforts, as are 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)
- APEC Consolidated Counter-Terrorism and Secure Trade Strategy (2011)
Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook

Name
Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Headquarters
Jakarta, Indonesia

Website
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 was established in August 1967 with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (the Bangkok Declaration). The five founding countries are Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. Five member states joined subsequently: Brunei (1984), Vietnam (1995), Laos and Myanmar (1997), and Cambodia (1999).

Funding
Each year ASEAN member states contribute equally to ASEAN Secretariat’s operational budget. ASEAN also receives financial and technical assistance from its dialogue partners: 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—mainly seminars and workshops (discussed below)—ASEAN has received financial assistance from Australia, Canada, the EU, Japan, and UNDP.

RO members and the ATT
- States parties: 0% (0 states)
- Signatories: 50% (5 states)
- Not yet joined: 50% (5 states)

Notes
Cambodia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand are signatories.

PoA POC
Name: Mala Selvaraju
Title: Head, Security Cooperation Division, Political and Security Directorate, Political-Security Community Department

PoA-related activities
ASEAN first explicitly acknowledged the need to address the threat of illicit arms smuggling at the ASEAN Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in July 1997. In December 1997 ASEAN highlighted the problem of arms smuggling and other transnational crime issues by signing the ASEAN Declaration on Transnational Crime at the inaugural ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC—the ASEAN Sectoral Ministerial Body responsible for combating transnational crime) in Manila. Following this declaration, ASEAN adopted the Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime in June 1999. In 2002 ASEAN adopted the Work Programme to Implement the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime 1999, in which member states identified ‘action lines’ to make concrete progress in combating arms smuggling. Since then a series of workshops and seminars on arms smuggling have been held, including two devoted to MANPADS (2005, 2006), one specifically on illicit SALW (2007), and one on SALW and UXO (2012). The
ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (ACCT), concluded in January 2007, commits ASEAN members to enhancing cross-border cooperation and information sharing. ASEAN also reiterated its commitment to work towards the elimination of the smuggling of SALW in both the Kuala Lumpur Declaration in Combating Transnational Crime (October 2015) and the APSC Blueprint 2025 (sec. B.3.5), which came into effect in January 2016.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
Under the framework of the ASEAN Regional Forum, the EU has funded some of the workshops and conferences noted above. The ASEAN Secretariat is invited to attend the annual ASEANAPOL Conference.

Legally binding regional instruments
- ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism (2007)
- Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (2007)

Other official documents of interest
- ASEAN Declaration on Transnational Crime (1997)
- ASEAN Comprehensive Plan of Action on Counter-Terrorism (2009)
Name
ASEAN National Police
(ASEANAPOL)

Headquarters
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Website
www.aseanapol.org

Short description
ASEANAPOL’s objectives are to enhance police professionalism, forge stronger regional cooperation in policing, and promote lasting friendships among the police officers of member countries.

Membership
10 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
When it was established in 1981 ASEANAPOL had five members; by 2000 this number had doubled. In addition, ASEANAPOL has 9 dialogue partners: 7 national police forces (Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Turkey, and the Russian Federation) and 2 organizations (ASEAN and INTERPOL). Five organizations have observer status: the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network, Europol, the ICRC, the UK National Crime Agency, and the Timor-Leste police force.

Funding
From 1981 to 2009 the function of the ASEANAPOL Secretariat was delegated to whichever member country hosted the annual conference for a particular year. This country also provided all associated maintenance costs and staffed the Secretariat. In 2010, with the aim of improving its administrative system, a permanent Secretariat was established in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, with the Royal Malaysia Police (RMP) as its permanent host. In 2011 the RMP covered the organization’s operating costs. Beginning in 2012, however, the members shared these costs equally, covering the costs of officers they seconded to the Secretariat.

RO members and the ATT
- States parties: 0% (0 states)
- Signatories: 50% (5 states)
- Not yet joined: 50% (5 states)

Notes
Cambodia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand are signatories.

PoA POC
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Title: Executive Director
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📞 +60-3-2266-8825

PoA-related activities
The ASEANAPOL Secretariat 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 13 areas of activities that ASEANAPOL addresses. (The most recent activity added to ASEANAPOL’s work plan concerns wildlife crime.) The Secretariat works with its contacts from member states responsible for all areas of crime discussed at the annual conference, gathering information and updates. These updates are tabled and discussed at the ASEANAPOL Contact Persons Meeting held every year after the annual conference to deliberate further on the pending issues (if any) and coordinate mechanisms and tools to achieve the desired outcomes.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
The ASEAN Secretariat was represented at ASEANAPOL’s annual conference as an observer.
from 2007 to 2011, when it became a dialogue partner. (ASEANAPOL also collaborates with international organizations such as INTERPOL and UNODC.) (ASEANAPOL dialogue partners and observers provide assistance on capability and training initiatives to enhance police capacity in the implementation of the organization’s campaign against transnational crimes.)

**Legally binding regional instruments**
- None

**Other official documents of interest**
- None

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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**: None

Profile updated March 2016
Name
Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

Headquarters
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Website
www.bimstec.org

Short description
BIMSTEC promotes economic cooperation among its members and fosters cooperation among South and Southeast 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. BIMSTEC’s activities and programmes had been coordinated and facilitated by the BIMSTEC Working Group (BWG) based in Bangkok. A Memorandum of Association (2013) laid the foundation for establishing a permanent secretariat in Dhaka. The decision to locate the secretariat in Dhaka was adopted at the 3rd BIMSTEC Summit in March 2014, and it was officially inaugurated in September 2014.

Funding
From 1997 to 2010 members contributed funding to BIMSTEC activities on a voluntary basis. India projected that it would contribute 32 per cent towards the operational costs of the Secretariat (2014).

RO members and the ATT
- States parties: 0% (0 states)
- Signatories: 29% (2 states)
- Not yet joined: 71% (5 states)

Notes
Bangladesh and Thailand are signatories. Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Sri Lanka have not yet joined.

PoA POC
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Title: Director
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PoA-related activities
In 2005 BIMSTEC created the Sector on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime. Cooperation in this sector is divided into four sub-groups led by different members: Intelligence Sharing (Sri Lanka); Combating Financing of Terrorism (Thailand); Legal and Law Enforcement Issues (India); and Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursors (Myanmar). 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. Bangladesh and India have ratified the convention, and Thailand announced in December 2014 that it had begun the internal ratification procedures. However, the convention will only enter into force once all seven members are states parties. At the 7th Meeting of the BIMSTEC Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (2015) members finalized the text for the Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters. This convention contains measures on mutual cooperation for enhancing
capability and effectiveness in the investigation and prosecution of crimes, including crimes related to terrorism, transnational organized crime, drug trafficking, money laundering, and cybercrimes.

### PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

BIMSTEC considers itself a bridge between South and South-east Asia and represents a reinforcement of relations among the countries of the regions. BIMSTEC has also established a platform for intra-regional cooperation between SAARC and ASEAN members.

### Legally binding regional instruments


### Other official documents of interest

- None

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Profile updated March 2016
CICA

Name
Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA)

Headquarters
Astana, Kazakhstan

Website
www.s-cica.org

Short description
CICA is an intergovernmental consensus-based forum for multilateral discussions on maintaining peace, security, and stability in Asia.

Membership
26 members
(25 UN member states)

Notes
Established in 1999, CICA was formally launched in 2002 with 16 members. Ten additional members have since joined: Thailand (2004), South Korea (2006), Jordan and the UAE (2008), Iraq and Vietnam (2010), Bahrain and Cambodia (2011), and Bangladesh and Qatar (2014). A country can join CICA if at least part of its territory is in Asia. Observers include eight states (five from Asia—Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka; three from outside Asia—Belarus, Ukraine, and the United States); and four organizations (LAS, the OSCE, the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries [TURKPA], and the UN). (The Permanent Secretariat was established in 2006 in Almaty. The headquarters relocated to Astana in 2014.)

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 nationals’ salaries and benefits.

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, or CBMs). They later reaffirmed their readiness to implement both the PoA and the Catalogue of CBMs (2006 Declaration) and committed to implementing the ITI (2010). In 2008 Turkey organized a CICA experts meeting on CBMs and the 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 CICA Secretariat has created a database of...
contact points in member states for coordinating activities related to law enforcement, border management, illicit drug trafficking, and political-military cooperation. CICA member states are also deliberating the adoption of a CICA Action Plan for the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
CICA and the SCO signed an MoU in 2014 on information exchange and best practice in order to promote closer interaction in the fight against terrorism, drug trafficking, and assessing and countering threats. CICA and the OSCE have instituted working-level cooperation and their officials routinely participate in each organization’s seminars and workshops.

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)
Name
Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

Headquarters
Minsk, Belarus

Website
www.e-cis.info
www.cis.minsk.by

Short description
The CIS is an intergovernmental forum for former Soviet Republics to coordinate economic, security, and humanitarian affairs across in Eurasia.

Membership
9 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
The CIS is an association of states formerly part of the Soviet Union. It was established in December 1991 by Belarus, RF, and Ukraine. Eight additional former Soviet republics joined later that month. Georgia joined in 1993, but officially withdrew in 2009. Turkmenistan and Ukraine have not ratified the CIS Charter (1993) and both claim ‘associate membership status’, a distinction not recognized by the CIS charter. In March 2014 Ukraine announced it was reserving the right to decide whether to participate in CIS activities going forward, effectively withdrawing its full membership.

Funding
Members contribute to the costs of running the CIS through an assessment that is based on each member's share of CIS GDP for 2008–10. The CIS heads of state changed the formula for assessing contributions in 2012, effective from 2014. Under this formula the Russian Federation accounts for 68.9 per cent of the budget. The Russian Federation allocated USD 153 million to CIS intergovernmental structures in 2015, of which USD 1.2 million was allocated to the Anti-Terrorist Centre of the CIS States and just under USD 1 million to coordinate activities to address organized crime and other dangerous crimes in CIS territory.

RO members and the ATT
- States parties: 11% (1 state)
- Signatories: 0% (0 states)
- Not yet joined: 89% (8 states)

Notes
Moldova is a state party. The remaining members have not yet joined.

PoA-related activities
CIS member states exchange information on crimes involving firearms, explosives, and ammunition under a prime ministerial agreement (2009). In 1997 the CIS Inter-Parliamentary Assembly adopted the Model Law on Weapons, recommending it as the basis for national legislation. In 1998 members signed a cooperative agreement on (external) border controls in which they agreed to take coordinated measures to prevent illegal transfers of weapons and ammunition, and to exchange information on trafficking routes. Another 1998 agreement committed members to prevent and investigate illicit trafficking in weapons, ammunition, and explosives, and to recover stolen firearms. In 2003 members 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, ammunition, explosive substances, and explosive devices—commitments echoed in the CIS joint action plans on preventing crime and terrorism. CIS members are establishing a unified marking
system for explosive substances, ammunition, and firearms based on a 2005 concept document. The Russian Federation Interior Ministry maintains a database for the exchange of information within the CIS on ‘lost and found’ arms and other weapons. CIS members have also participated in joint operations to combat illicit small arms proliferation. CIS law enforcement agencies seized 17,491 firearms, 6.5 million rounds of ammunition, 203 kg of explosives, and 3,295 explosive devices during 2011–12.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

The CIS Anti-Terrorist Centre and the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (SCO RATS) have signed agreements to exchange information.

Legally binding regional instruments

None

Other official documents of interest

- 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)
- Decision on the 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)
- Agreement on Cooperation in Information Exchange in the Field of Crime Prevention (2009)
Regional Organizations and the PoA Handbook

Name
Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)

Headquarters
Moscow, Russian Federation

Website
www.odkb-csto.org

Short description
CSTO promotes the political and military cooperation of its members in order to enhance national, regional, and international security, and the collective defence of its members. It also strives for its members to coordinate their efforts against terrorist threats and extremism, illicit trafficking (including of weapons), and transnational organized crime.

Membership
6 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
CSTO was founded in 2002, but has its origins in the 1992 Collective Security Treaty. Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan were the first signatories. Azerbaijan, Belarus, and Georgia subsequently signed the treaty in 1993. Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Uzbekistan withdrew in 1999. Uzbekistan rejoined in 2006 and withdrew its membership again in 2012.

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. In 2014 the CSTO budget totaled RUB 250 million (approximately USD 6 million).

RO members and the ATT

| | States parties: 0% (0 states) |
| | Signatories: 0% (0 states) |
| | Not yet joined: 100% (6 states) |

Notes
No CSTO member has yet joined.

PoA POC
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☎ +7-495-621-3786

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. The coordination of efforts to counter the illicit circulation of weapons is a charter-based CSTO mandate (2002 CSTO Charter, art. 8). 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.) Since 2003 CSTO states have participated in joint operations to counter drug trafficking under the Kanal (Channel) programme. These operations have also included the seizure of illicit weapons. The initiative engages countries beyond the CSTO’s membership and takes place in the territory of CSTO members and some of the 25 states that ‘observe’ the annual exercise. From 2003 to 2011, 17 Kanal operations took place, resulting in the removal of 14,865 firearms and 435,352 rounds of ammunition from
illegal circulation. The two Kanal operations undertaken in 2015 recovered more than 650 firearms and 11,500 rounds of ammunition.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

In 2007 the CSTO and SCO signed an MoU on agreeing to cooperate in preventing illicit trafficking in arms (and other areas) through consultation, information sharing, and joint programmes and actions. In 2011 the CSTO’s Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS) Executive Committee and the SCO signed a protocol pledging to intensify cooperation in the fight against terrorism, separatism, extremism, and the financing of terrorism.

Legally binding regional instruments


Other official documents of interest

- Plan of Action on Counteracting Challenges and Threats from the Territory of Afghanistan (2011)
Name
Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)

Headquarters
Moscow, Russian Federation

Website
www.eaeunion.org

Short description
The EAEU promotes regional economic integration through the free movement of goods, capital, services, and people, and provides for common policies on transport, agriculture, and energy. It also focuses on setting common macroeconomic, financial, monetary, and tax policies.

Membership
5 members
(all UN member states)

Notes
The EAEU incorporates and replaces previous regional integration mechanisms: the Single Economic Space, Customs Union (CU), and Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC). The Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union was signed in May 2014 and came into force in January 2015. (Belarus, Kazakhstan, and the Russian Federation comprised the CU. EurAsEC’s membership included these three countries plus Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. For more on the CU and EurAsEC, see the First Edition of this Handbook.)

Funding
Member contributions to the EAEU budget are:
Russia, 85.3 per cent; Kazakhstan, 7.1 per cent; Belarus, 4.6 per cent; Kyrgyzstan, 1.9 per cent; and Armenia, 1.1 per cent. The projected budget for 2016 was about EUR 81 million (RUB 5.8 billion at December 2015 rates), a decrease of 12 per cent from its first year (RUB 6.6 billion).

RO members and the ATT
States parties: 0% (0 states)
Signatories: 0% (0 states)
Not yet joined: 100% (5 states)

Notes
No EAEU member has yet joined.

PoA-related activities
The EAEU incorporated the previous Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC) and Customs Union (CU). Both of these precursor organizations had instruments on PoA-related issues that were carried into the EAEU. From EurAsEC these included an information exchange agreement on the illicit transfers of weapons, ammunitions, and explosives (2001), and a treaty to cooperate in combating illegitimate transfers of such weapons across members’ borders (2003). The CU had adopted a common list of small arms, their parts, and ammunition whose export, import, or transit were banned or restricted within the organization’s territory, and included service and civilian firearms that would require permits or licences for their export, import, or transit (2009). The CU had also implemented activities for preventing, detecting, and intercepting smuggling channels.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs
At the Heads of States Meeting (December 2015) Kazakhstan, representing the EAEU Presidency for 2016, noted that it intends to work actively to deepen
contacts with the SCO. At side meetings held during the Heads of States Meeting EAEU members also participated in discussions with the CSTO Collective Security Council focused on strengthening regional security and stability, and combating international terrorism.

**Legally binding regional instruments**
- Agreement on Information Interaction of the Eurasian Economic Community Member States on Border Issues (2001, incorporated from EurAsEc into the EAEU)
- Treaty on Cooperation in Guarding External Borders of the Eurasian Economic Community Member States (2003, incorporated from EurAsEc into the EAEU)

**Other official documents of interest**
- Common List of Goods, Exports, or Imports which Are Banned or Restricted by the CU Member States WhenTrading with Third Countries (2009, incorporated from the CU into the EAEU).

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**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

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**Current members**
- Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation
  - **Bold** = founding member

**Former members:** None

**Membership pending:** None

Profile updated March 2016
**Regional Organizations and the PoA**

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

**Headquarters**
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**Website**
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 2002 Yemen signed a cooperation agreement with the GCC and has since received funds for development projects. Yemen has become a member of several GCC economic organizations, which is a preliminary step before applying for full membership. It has not applied for membership and has not been formally invited to do so. In 2011 the GCC invited Jordan and Morocco to become members. Since then the two countries have held five ministerial-level meetings with their GCC counterparts to explore this issue further and develop their relations. (The most recent meeting of the eight countries’ foreign ministers was held in Abu Dhabi on 9 March 2016.) That said, neither Jordan nor Morocco is a member of any GCC bodies (as Yemen is). It is therefore more appropriate to speak of the GCC exploring partnerships with Jordan, Morocco, and Yemen than these countries qualifying as ‘pending members’.

**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.

**RO members and the ATT**
- **States parties:** 0% (0 states)
- **Signatories:** 33% (2 states)
- **Not yet joined:** 67% (4 states)

**Notes**
Bahrain and the UAE are signatories. Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia have not yet joined.

**PoA POC**
**Name:** N/A
**Title:** N/A

**PoA-related activities**
In terms of joint military, defence, security, coordination, and cooperation, the GCC Supreme Council (which has convened some 40 times) emphasizes the importance of enhancing cooperation in preventing arms smuggling to the GCC states. The 1994 GCC Security Arrangement explicitly prohibits illicit arms trading and promotes using the newest technologies to combat arms trafficking. The GCC adopted the Counter-Terrorism Agreement in 2004, and in 2006 it established a Permanent Committee on Terrorism. The 2004 agreement prohibits supplying arms to aid terrorism. In June 2012 the Customs Union Committee became operational. Among other responsibilities it is assigned to follow up on the completion of a joint electronic database at member states’ customs ports to share information on goods transported. In 2014 the GCC agreed to establish a GCC police force (to be known as GCC-POL), which had been formally proposed in 2012. (The headquarters will be based in Abu Dhabi.) This body has been described as an INTERPOL-like force with the goals of achieving greater coordination among GCC law enforcement
entities, exchanging information, and countering organized and transnational crime, as well as terrorist threats. The GCC has also stated its intention to create a joint naval force to improve maritime security.

PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs

The GCC and EU have held Joint Council and Ministerial Meetings for most of the past 20-plus years. The agreement establishing this formal dialogue allows for joint committees comprising senior officials from the two ROs. Among PoA-relevant issues addressed in this framework are maritime safety and security and the need to counter piracy. (The GCC opened up permanent missions in Geneva and Vienna in August 2015 and February 2016, respectively. It has had an office in New York for many years to liaise with UN HQ and New York-based UN bodies.)

Legally binding regional instruments

- Internal Security Pact (2012)

Other official documents of interest

- None
Name
League of Arab States (LAS)

Headquarters
Cairo, Egypt

Website
www.lasportal.org

Short description
LAS promotes closer ties among its 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 UN member states)

Notes
Seven countries formed LAS in March 1945, with another 15 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. Syria was suspended in November 2011. Forty-one states and four organizations (the AU, EU, OIC, and UN) are accredited observers at LAS Ministerial Council meetings, but attend only opening sessions.

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. Germany (primarily) and Switzerland have also sponsored PoA-related activities.

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 updating and closing 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 helped its members to establish NFPs; all except Somalia’s are in place. With the financial support of Germany and Switzerland, LAS held the first meeting of small arms NFPs in December 2005, at which 17 states were represented. This meeting has subsequently been held annually. Germany funded three-day seminars for member states in 2008–10 on small arms issues. LAS and UNODA organized a regional meeting on PoA implementation in 2013 that was attended by 11 LAS members. Capacity
building in the area of DDR planning and implementation will be a growing priority in the region in post-conflict periods. In 2015 LAS agreed to form a joint Arab military force for regional peacekeeping missions comprising volunteer contingents from member states.

**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 for the Suppression of Terrorism (1998)

**Other official documents of interest**

- LAS Ministerial Council Resolution 6625 on Arab Coordination for Combating the Illicit Trade in SALW (4 March 2006)

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| 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 |
| Former members: None |
| Membership pending: None |

Profile updated March 2016
Name
Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

Headquarters
Beijing, China

Website
www.sectsco.org
www.ecrats.org/en

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 includes these members and Uzbekistan. Pakistan (2006), Iran (2008), and India (2014) applied for full SCO membership and India and Pakistan had their applications approved in 2015, with full membership expected in 2016. Iran’s application is now being considered after UN sanctions were lifted (which was a prerequisite for SCO to consider its application).

Funding
The SCO’s budget is agreed annually for the administrative functions of its two permanent bodies: the Beijing-based Secretariat and the Tashkent-based Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS). As of 2004 each body had a permanent staff of 30. The number of allocated posts corresponds with members’ financial contributions (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 through additional contributions from participating members.

RO members and the ATT
- States parties: 0% (0 states)
- Signatories: 0% (0 states)
- Not yet joined: 100% (6 states)

Notes
No SCO member has yet joined.

PoA POC
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PoA-related activities
The Shanghai Convention (2001) calls for SCO members to exchange information on the illicit manufacture, procurement, storage, transfer, movement, sale, or use of explosives, explosive devices, firearms, and ammunition. The SCO Charter (2002) lists the fight against arms trafficking as a main goal. An anti-terrorism agreement (‘RATS’, 2004) established a database on the use of explosive devices, weapons, and ammunition in terrorist acts. In 2008 members agreed to harmonize national legislation, develop joint countermeasures, exchange relevant information and expertise, undertake joint research, and assist in personnel training to help counter arms trafficking. Member states augmented their commitment in a 2010 agreement on the illicit manufacture of and trade in arms, ammunition, and explosives. In 2009 SCO members and Afghanistan pledged to share information and undertake joint investigations on illicit arms trafficking. In 2015 SCO members (together with the three prospective members) met in Kazakhstan to address the illicit small arms trade and the need...
for sound weapons and ammunition accounting and storage policies.

**PoA-relevant cooperation with other ROs**
The SCO has concluded a series of agreements with ROs that include joint efforts to counter small arms proliferation: ASEAN (2005); CSTO (2007); CIS, CSTO, and EurAsEC (2010); and CSTO (2011).

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

**Other official documents of interest**
- MoU between the SCO Secretariat and the ASEAN Secretariat (2005)
- MoU between the SCO Secretariat and CSTO Secretariat (2007)

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**PoA-related programmes and initiatives**

- Current members: China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan
  - Bold = founding member
- Former members: None
- Membership pending: India, Iran, Pakistan

Profile updated March 2016