

Disarmament

Note to Mr. Abe

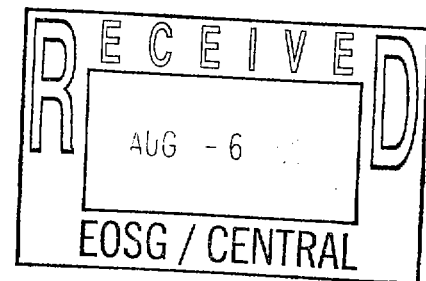
Secretary-General's Report on UN Regional Centre  
for Peace and Development in Africa

1. Thank you for the draft report on the above subject. The report is approved.
2. However, I would like to comment that fundraising for the Centre should not just be left to its Director. DDA also could take advantage of its contacts with donor governments to solicit support for the Centre.
3. In the "Observations" section of a Secretary-General's report, it would seem more appropriate to use the first person rather than the third.

Thank you.



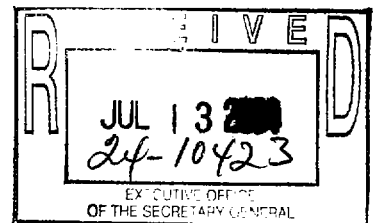
S. Iqbal Riza  
29 July 2004



24-10423

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Note to Mr. Riza



**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON  
THE UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT  
IN AFRICA**

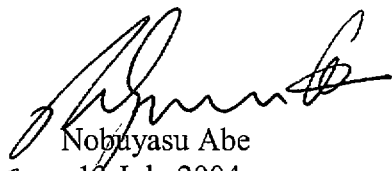
(Heid 27/7)

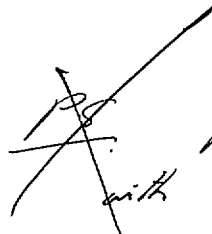
1. The above report is submitted to the General Assembly on an annual basis and normally would not require clearance from the Office of the Secretary-General as it contains an account of the activities of the Regional Centre for the past 12 months, a status report on the Trust Fund for the Centre and a list of planned activities that require funding from interested donor countries and organizations.

2. However, over the past year, voluntary contributions on which the operations of the Centre depend had been drastically reduced. As of 30 June 2004, the balance remaining in the Trust Fund for the Centre to cover the operating costs amounts to only \$2,608. Past fund-raising experiences have also demonstrated that donors are ready to make financial contributions in support of projects and activities, but many of them are reluctant to provide financial support to the operating costs. For this reason, it is stated in the attached report of the Secretary-General that, if the financial situation of the Centre does not improve significantly in the coming months, the Centre will not be able to continue to operate and temporary suspension or relocation of the Centre's operations in Lomé would have to be considered (see the last paragraph of the Summary and the Conclusions of the report on pages 19-20).

3. It should be recalled that according to the provisions of GA resolution 40/151 G establishing the Centre, the Centre functions on the basis of existing resources within the UN Secretariat and on voluntary contributions that Member States and other donors may offer. While only one P-5 post as the Director of the Centre is funded from the regular budget, the entire operational costs must be covered by voluntary contributions.

4. On the basis of the above, I would be grateful for the approval of the Secretary-General for the above-mentioned text.

  
Nobuyasu Abe  
13 July 2004

 Pls. send approval  
with following comments:

- Fundraising should not be left only to Director
  - ODA also could take advantage of its ongoing contacts with donor govt. to obtain support for the Centre
  - (- In "Observations" section, should rep. S/G's report as first person not third?).
- Thanks. R 27/7

**Note to Mr. S. Iqbal Riza**

**Report of the Secretary-General on the  
United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Development in Africa**

This report on the activities of the above-mentioned centre, set-up under the UN General Assembly mandate, would normally have required no special attention, except that at present it is facing a severe financial crisis, one so serious as to threaten its continued existence.

As Mr. Abe's explanatory forwarding note states, the voluntary contributions which have hitherto sustained the Centre's operations have not been forthcoming in the past year - - since donors appear unwilling to fund the operating costs.

This Regional Centre for Peace and Development in Africa was established in 1986 with headquarters in Lomé, Togo, with the Department of Disarmament Affairs exercising supervisory functions over it. Its program of work covers four main areas, namely: support of peace processes in Africa; practical disarmament and arms control; information research and publication; and advocacy and resource mobilization. Examples of useful initiatives in which the Centre is involved include:

- Provision of technical support to the Africa Union Commission in the formulation of the African Common Defense Policy Framework and the African Standby Force;
- Project entitled "Small Arms Transparency and Control Regime in Africa (SATCRA)", financed by Finland and Sweden, and aimed *inter alia*, at helping the ten participating African countries improve understanding of how weapons are diverted from legitimate to illicit channels - and to tighten control systems. The ten African countries currently participating in the pilot project are: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Djibouti, Gabon, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa and Togo.
- Provision of technical assistance in the setting up of a Small Arms and Light Weapons Unit within the Executive Secretariat of ECOWAS.

GA resolution 5861 of 8 December 2003 requested the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for better achievements and results. However, as of 30 June 2004, the balance remaining in the Trust Fund for the Centre to cover its operational costs amounted to only \$2,608.00. Unless the financial situation of the Centre improves significantly very soon, it will not only be incapable of continuing its program of work, but may have to consider temporary suspension or relocation of its operations in Lomé, Togo.

24-10423

## **Observations**

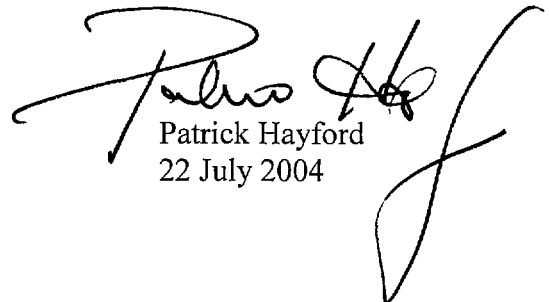
Resource constraints are threatening the very existence of this African Regional Centre at the very time when the subject area it deals with is assuming increased relevance for the whole region. Moreover, as the report highlights, the General Assembly has already mandated the work of the Centre and appealed for it to be supported. Politically, it would be unfortunate for a UN Resource Centre based in Africa to be forced to close down at this time.

The conclusions section at the end of the report stresses the financial crisis facing the Centre and reiterates the Secretary-General's serious concern at the drastic decline in voluntary contributions. An appeal is made to member states and organizations to support the centre and thereby enable it to execute its mandate.

## **Recommendation**

I recommend that this report be cleared by EOSG.

I also recommend that EOSG consider specifically requesting the Department of Disarmament Affairs to <sup>quietly</sup> ~~quickly~~ lobby the traditional donor supporters of the Centre to significantly increase their support.



Patrick Hayford  
22 July 2004

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United Nations

A/59/.....

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## **General Assembly**

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### **Fifty-ninth session**

Item 68(d) of the preliminary list<sup>\*</sup>

**Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the**

**Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly: United Nations**

**Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa**

**United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament  
in Africa**

**Report of the Secretary-General**

### ***Summary***

During the reporting period, from July 2003 to June 2004, the Centre's operation was marked by enormous uncertainties due to a lack of sufficient voluntary contributions to

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<sup>\*</sup> A/59/50

support its activities. Within its limited financial resources, the Centre continued to implement its programme of work in the four priority areas endorsed in 1999 by the Group of African States of the United Nations. These areas include: support for peace processes and peace initiatives in Africa; practical disarmament and arms control; information, research and publication; and advocacy and resource mobilization.

The Centre launched in October 2003, a three-year project entitled: *Small Arms Transparency and Control Regime in Africa (SATCRA)* with the objective of assisting Member States of the African region to implement, on a voluntary basis, the provisions relating to transparency in the flows of small arms and light weapons, as contained in the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Proliferation, Circulation and Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons as well as in the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. It also expanded its sensitization and advocacy campaign against the misuse of small arms and light weapons and non-violence through the publication and dissemination of the compact disc entitled: "Africa! Disarm". Furthermore, in collaboration with the Commission of the African Union, the Centre continued to implement its civil-military relations programme and organized, in this framework, a pilot training workshop for the Member States of the ECOWAS focusing on the role of the parliamentary defence committees in military matters.

The Centre promoted cooperation with the Commission of the African Union and with other sub-regional organizations including the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); the Southern African Development Community (SADC), and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS). Cooperation and partnership was also

extended to relevant civil society organizations and research institutions. To maximize synergies, working relations were strengthened with relevant United Nations agencies and programmes such as UNDP, UNICEF, etc. in areas of common interest.

**The Centre was established to function on the basis of existing resources and on voluntary contributions that Member States and other institutions may make. Unfortunately, such contributions had been drastically reduced during the reporting period. As of 30 June 2004, the balance remaining in the Trust Fund for the Centre to cover its operating costs amounts to only \$2,608. If the financial situation of the Centre does not improve significantly in the coming months, the Centre will not be able to continue to carry out its programme of activities in fulfilment of its mandate, and temporary suspension or relocation of its operations in Lomé would have to be considered. This would seriously affect the revitalization process of the Centre as called for by the General Assembly in December 1998.**

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for Peace and Disarmament in Africa for the biennium 2002-2003...
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## **I. Introduction**

1. The present report is submitted in compliance with General Assembly resolution 58/61 of 8 December 2003, by which the General Assembly, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa for better achievements and results and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the resolution. The report covers the period from July 2003 to June 2004. A financial statement on the status of the Trust Fund for the Centre for the biennium 2002-2003 appears in annex I. Annex II to the report contains an outline of the planned activities of the Centre for which funding is invited from interested donor countries and organizations.

## **II. Functioning of the Centre**

2. The Centre was established in 1986 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 40/151 G of 16 December 1985. Its headquarters are located in Lomé, Togo. The Centre functions within the framework of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, which ensures its supervision and acts as the focal point for coordinating the inputs of the pertinent organs, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system.

3. During the reporting period, the Centre operated under enormous uncertainties due to a drastic decline in voluntary contributions in support of its activities. Within its limited financial resources, the Centre continued to implement its programme of work, endorsed by

the Group of African States of the United Nations in 1999, in the following main areas:  
support for peace processes and peace initiatives in Africa; practical disarmament and arms control; information, research and publication; and advocacy and resource mobilization.

### **III. Objectives and activities of the Centre**

4. According to its mandate, as contained in General Assembly resolution 40/151 G, the Centre will provide, upon request, substantive support for initiatives and other efforts of Member States in the African region towards the realization of measures of peace, arms limitation and disarmament in the region, in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity - now the African Union - and will coordinate the implementation of regional activities in Africa under the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme.

5. During the period under review, the Centre carried out a number of activities in the above-mentioned four areas, which were endorsed by the Group of African States.

#### **A. Support for peace processes and peace initiatives in Africa**

6. Although not directly involved as a player in the peace processes established in several parts of Africa, the Centre provided substantive support and technical advice to a number of ongoing peace initiatives particularly in the area of disarmament and security sector reforms.

In this context, it maintained contacts and consultations with the Executive Secretariat of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire, and hosted a number of briefings with high-level officials in Lomé in this regard. The Centre also maintained contacts with the United Nations Peace-building Support Offices in Africa. In the Central African Republic, such contacts involved the search for operational ways and resources for conducting arms collection programmes and civil-military relations activities. In Guinea-Bissau, they involved the provision of technical support for the organization of a forum for national reconciliation and the role of the armed and security forces in the democratic stabilization of the country.

7. At the regional level, the Centre, as a resource institution, provided technical support to the African Union Commission in the formulation of the African Common Defence Policy Framework and the African Stand-by Force. In this context, it participated in the meetings which led to the adoption of these instruments in February 2004.

8. The strategic approach adopted by the Centre over the past few years has been to make itself ready to provide, upon request, the necessary technical support for peace initiatives and peace processes taking place in Africa. This approach is predicated by the will of the stakeholders in this field to complement their efforts with the necessary disarmament elements which have become an essential part of most of the peace processes and peace initiatives in Africa. Political negotiations in the context of several peace accords invariably include disarmament elements for which the Centre's inputs have proven to be essential in a number of situations. Programmes of Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration of ex-combatants are also vital elements which become an integral part of most peace processes. In this connection and on a pilot basis, the Centre launched a consultation process on training for

peace operations with the ECOWAS. It also initiated partnership in this area with the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs.

9. The Centre continued to work with the UN Peace-Building Support Offices established in Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau and Liberia, supporting their efforts in the specific areas of collecting and destroying surplus weapons and initiating a civil-military relations harmonization process.

10. The Centre also continued to provide support to the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa in the preparation of documentation for the Committee's meetings, the organization of experts and ministerial meetings as well as in the process that would lead to establishing in the Central African sub-region, a civil society network in support of the implementation of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (UN Programme of Action). The Centre, in this context, elaborated a project proposal comprising modalities for the establishment of this network and laying out the priority areas for capacity-building for civil society organizations. From 21 to 25 June 2004, the Centre provided substantive and secretarial support to the experts and ministerial meetings of the Committee which were held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.

11. The Centre continued to carry out, during the reporting period, two main activities deriving from the civil-military relations programme which it launched in collaboration with the African Union (AU) in October 2001. These were the training workshop for parliamentary defence committees for West Africa and the sensitization campaign on crisis prevention and conflict resolution.

## **Training Workshop for the Parliamentary Defence Committees in West Africa**

12. From 21 to 24 April 2004, the Centre convened in Lomé a regional workshop with the objective of building the capacity of members of the parliamentary defence committees in the Member States of ECOWAS, on the modern techniques and tools for:

- ensuring effective parliamentary control over the military institutions;
- increasing the awareness of parliamentarians on military programming matters;
- facilitating the approval of defence policy and budget, by parliaments and enhancing the knowledge of parliamentary defence committees, and enabling parliamentarians serving in these committees to participate fully in the formulation of national defence policies and national defence budgets;
- enhancing the awareness of parliamentarians on conditions regulating the intervention of the military and the relevant laws pertaining thereto.

13. The workshop was organized, in collaboration with the Commission of the African Union and in partnership with the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat, and the ECOWAS Parliament, and with the support of the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA), the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of the Armed Forces (DCAF).

## **Sensitization Campaign**

14. The Centre, as a means of increasing greater awareness of issues of peace, security and disarmament, organized a number of consultations in the framework of the African Disarmament Forum and facilitated the organization of specific roundtable discussions on “Democracy and the Culture of Peace for Crisis Prevention and Conflict Management in Africa”, initiated by the Rotary Club of Togo. It made presentation to a number of similar initiatives including the 27-29 April 2004 meeting held in Dakar, Senegal, on the topic of “African Encounter for the Defence of Human Rights”, organized by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in collaboration with the African network for the Defence of Human Rights.

#### **B. Disarmament and arms control**

15. During the reporting period, the Centre continued to hold consultations with Member States in promoting compliance, signature and ratification of major disarmament and arms control legal instruments and norms, with emphasis on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), the Mine-Ban Convention and the Treaty on the Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in Africa (Pelindaba Treaty). Where possible, the Centre also collaborated with the CTBTO Prepcom, the IAEA, intergovernmental organizations and governments in support of actions in the implementation of these instruments.

16. The Centre continued to implement its clearing house project which consists of building the capacity of Member States on the control of small arms and light weapons. In this context, from 8 to 12 September 2003 the Centre organized in Yaoundé, Cameroon, the training of trainers workshop for the armed and security forces in the Central African sub-

region, in collaboration with the Government of Cameroon, the Secretariat of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), and the International Relations Institute of Cameroon (IRIC). Senior military security and other civilian officials working on small arms control issues from the eleven Member States of ECCAS participated. The training curriculum for the workshop was designed and adopted at the meeting of experts held in Lomé, Togo, from 30 June to 1 July 2003. The training workshop and the meeting of experts were financed by the Governments of Cameroon and Japan.

17. The Centre also continued to provide support to Member States in the establishment and strengthening of national focal points/national commissions and relevant civil society organizations, for the fight against the proliferation of small arms and light weapons. In this context, with the financial support of France, the Centre organized on 9-10 February 2004, a capacity-building workshop for the sixteen members of the National Commission of Togo. It facilitated substantively the establishment and the launch of the Togo National Coalition of civil society organizations for the fight against the proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

#### **Small Arms Transparency and Control Regime in Africa (SATCRA)**

18. On 1 October 2003, the Centre officially launched the project entitled: Small Arms Transparency and Control Regime in Africa (SATCRA). The project, financed by the Governments of Finland and Sweden, aimed at implementing the recommendations that encourage States to promote transparency in the flows of small arms, on a voluntary basis, contained in the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, as well as in the

UN Programme of Action. SATCRA is a pilot project with ten initial participating countries, namely: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Djibouti, Gabon, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa and Togo.

19. The objectives of the project are:

- To improve understanding of the ways in which weapons are diverted from licit into illicit channels and, by so doing, help governments to generate tighter arms control measures to prevent such diversions;
- To initiate a process of confidence-building through openness in the licit flows and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in Africa.

20. The project activities focus on the following key areas:

- Organizing a regional workshop on transparency to discuss and approve a framework for action and a work programme, and the training of participants in the techniques of collecting, collating and dispatching the reports expected from each country;
- Conducting an inventory of local traditional small arms and light weapons producers, whether private or public-owned facilities;
- Creating small arms and light weapons databases at the level of each of the core countries, on the basis of a uniform format, and developing a regional register to be known as the Small Arms and Light Weapons Register for Africa (SALWRA).

#### **A plea in favour of the implementation of the NPT and to ratify the Pelindaba Treaty**

21. During the reporting period, the Centre and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) worked in close collaboration to promote nuclear non-proliferation in Africa through



the organization of two sub-regional seminars entitled “Seminar on Nuclear non-proliferation: The Strengthened Safeguards System”. The first was held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on 26-27 February 2004, for ECOWAS member States and the second in Windhoek, Namibia, on 29-31 March 2004, for SADC member States. Both of these seminars aimed at promoting the implementation of the NPT and raising awareness in order to garner support for the earliest entry into force of the Pelindaba Treaty.

22. With regard to the NPT, emphasis was placed on the conclusion of comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols with the IAEA as well as on access to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and peaceful application to nuclear technology. In this connection, States were encouraged to sign comprehensive safeguards with the IAEA. As regards the Pelindaba Treaty, the importance of its early entry into force was underlined and in this context, States that had not yet ratified the Treaty were encouraged to do so as soon as possible. In addition, it was proposed that the IAEA be invited to participate in future high-level meetings and summits of African Heads of State so that the IAEA could promote the conclusion of comprehensive safeguards agreements.

### **C. Information, Research and Publications**

23. Information, research and publications continued to form part of the essential activities of the Centre. The Centre published one issue of its quarterly publication, the *African Peace Bulletin*, with a special focus on conflict resolution efforts in Africa. The Centre also organized media programmes such as radio, TV and press interviews, and issued press releases on its various activities. It continued to regularly revise and update its website: [www.unrec.org](http://www.unrec.org) which featured pages such as Study Series on African Security; Disarmament

Update; Fact-Sheet on African Disarmament; and current issues. The Centre's library continued to serve the research and diplomatic community and others within and outside Lomé.

24. In September 2003 the Centre launched a musical compact disc "Africa ... Disarm!" at an official ceremony in Lomé, attended by Togolese authorities, representatives of different international and UN agencies, members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of civil society. The theme of the CD was inspired by the African cultural tradition in which music is linked to themes of tolerance and peace. Working closely with the major song writers, musicians, musical professionals and other members of civil society in the production of the CD, the Centre opened a public debate about a subject that previously belonged to the domain of diplomats, policymakers and security authorities; and provided an opportunity for a broad spectrum of people to actively engage in contributing to the achievement of sustainable peace in Africa.

#### **D. Cooperation with regional organizations and civil society**

##### **Strengthening cooperation with the African Union and other regional and sub-regional organizations**

25. The Centre was invited to contribute substantially and to participate in the meeting of Chiefs of Defence Staff and Ministers of Defence and Security of the AU Member States in January 2004. The aim of the meeting was to examine and adopt an African common security and defence policy as well as its accompanying stand-by force. The Centre also discussed with the AU authorities, including the Chairman of the Commission of the African Union,

Mr. Alpha Oumar Konaré, the Commissioner for Peace and Security, Mr. Saïd Djinnit, and other senior officials of the AU Conflict Management Centre, issues of common interest to the AU and the Centre, in particular projects and partnership modalities and mechanisms for their execution.

26. During the reporting period, the Centre revitalized its cooperation with the Nairobi Secretariat<sup>1</sup> regarding the implementation of the Nairobi Declaration on the Problem of the Proliferation of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa, focusing on the exchange of information and participating in each other's activities. Accordingly, the Centre was invited to participate in the second ministerial review conference of the Nairobi Declaration in April 2004. During this meeting, the ministers adopted the "Nairobi Protocol for the Prevention, Control and Reduction of Small Arms and Light Weapons" and the "Ministerial Declaration to Strengthen the Capacity of Small Arms and Light Weapons Actions" in the Great Lakes and the Horn of Africa Regions.

27. The Centre also continued its cooperation with the Executive Secretariat of the ECOWAS. It provided technical advice on issues of practical disarmament, such as the effective implementation of the Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Light Weapons in West Africa; the setting up of a Small Arms and Light Weapons Unit within the Executive Secretariat and the establishment of a mechanism and measures to prevent illicit arms brokering activities in the sub-region. In this context, the Centre served as a resource institution for the ECOWAS Conference on Combating Illicit Small Arms Brokering and

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<sup>1</sup> The Nairobi Secretariat was established in November 2000, following the signature, on 15 March 2000, of the Nairobi Declaration on the Problem of the Proliferation of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and Horn of Africa, by the foreign ministers of the ten countries in the sub-region, namely Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania. The Nairobi Secretariat is responsible for the coordination of the implementation of the Nairobi Declaration and the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons in the sub-region.

Trafficking in West Africa, during which the implementation of the ECOWAS Code of Conduct on Small Arms and Light Weapons was reviewed.

28. Furthermore, the Centre maintained contact with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat and with the Secretariat of the ECCAS. Several consultations were held with ECCAS on the modalities through which ECCAS and the Centre would support and work together with civil society organizations in the Central African sub-region, regarding the implementation of the ECCAS Programme of Priority activities for the implementation of the UN Programme of Action. In September 2003, the ECCAS Secretariat collaborated with the Centre in the organization of a training workshop for the armed and security forces on the control of small arms and light weapons in the Central African sub-region.

#### **Partnership with civil society organizations**

29. Within the framework of its partnership with the African Strategic and Peace Research Group (AFSTRAG) based in Lagos, Nigeria, two meetings were held in February 2004 at the Centre to discuss projects of common interest and their implementation strategies. Both organizations continued to consider strategies for mobilizing resources for a project to train civil society members in arms control measures, a project in which the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa was also participating.

30. The Centre has also maintained active collaboration and partnership in information exchange and joint execution of programme and projects with the Open Society for Initiative of West Africa (OSIWA), the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the Geneva Centre for the

Democratic Control of the Armed Forces (DCAF); both of which joined the Centre in promoting civil-military relations in Africa, particularly through the organization of the training workshop of Members of the Parliamentary Defence Committees in West Africa. The Institute for Security Studies (ISS) continued to cooperate with the Centre on various aspects on the implementation of the UN Programme of Action in Africa and of the Bamako Declaration. In this context, the Centre took part in the ISS workshop on "Understanding and Regulating Arms Control in South Africa" held in Johannesburg, in March 2004.

#### **IV. Staffing, financing and administration**

31. During the reporting period, persistent financial problems prevented the Centre from operating at full scale to implement its work programme. While some limited funds were pledged for the execution of a number of projects, the effective functioning of the Centre was hampered by insufficient resources to cover the operational costs. The Centre therefore continued to operate with a skeleton staff comprising, in addition to the Director, an associate expert sponsored by the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie and locally recruited temporary General Service personnel. Three other staff were recruited locally to implement the Small Arms Transparency and Control Regime in Africa (SATCRA) project.

32. The Centre benefited, for the third consecutive year, from the provision in September 2003 of a six-month research intern by the Government of Canada, selected and managed by Canadian Project Ploughshares, a non-governmental organization. In February 2004, the staffing of the Centre was reinforced by a six-month research intern sponsored by the

Monterey Institute of International Affairs, from Monterey, California. The Centre also received five interns from Australia, Canada, France, Togo and the United States during the reporting period. The work of these interns contributed to promoting the research capacity of the Centre, and enabled it to reach out to many stakeholders.

33. The Director of the Centre undertook several fund-raising missions, during the period under review, within and outside Africa with a view to strengthening the financial, staffing and operational base of the Centre. In this connection, visits to and contacts with a number of countries and institutions were made, including Cameroon, France, Gabon, Nigeria, Norway, Sweden, Togo, the United Kingdom, the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of the Armed Forces (DCAF), the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA), and the Oxfam Great Britain for project execution partnership.

34. During the reporting period, voluntary contributions in the amount of \$538,313 were received. The Secretary-General wishes to express his gratitude to the Governments of Finland, France and Luxembourg as well as to the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA), for their financial contributions and support to the activities of the Centre, and to the Government of Togo, the host country, for its overall support of the Centre. The status of the Trust Fund of the Centre for the biennium 2002-2003 appears in annex I to the present report.

35. Pursuant to the consideration of the General Assembly of the Secretary-General's proposals for strengthening the security and safety of United Nations operations, staff and premises, funds have been allotted from the regular budget to bring the security level of the Centre up to minimum operating security standards.

## **V. Conclusions and observations**

**35. During the reporting period, the Centre received an increasing number of requests from Member States in the Africa region for substantive support to several peace initiatives and conflict resolution activities. It continued to promote the implementation of multilateral legal instruments in the area of disarmament and of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects. The Centre also continued to consolidate working relations with the African Union, regional and sub-regional organizations, as well as civil society organizations in the field of peace, disarmament and security in Africa.**

**36. In accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 40/151G of 16 December 1985, the Centre functions on the basis of existing resources within the United Nations Secretariat and on voluntary contributions that Member States and other donors may offer. This operational arrangement, by which about 80% of the required resources for the functioning of the Centre should come from voluntary contributions, has not ensured the institutional stability of the Centre. While one P-5 post as the Director of the Centre is funded from the regular budget, the costs of other professional and support staff, security, utilities, office equipment, travels and project activities must be covered by voluntary contributions.**

**37. However, despite continued intensive fund-raising efforts by the Director who has, over the past years, devoted more than two-thirds of his time to seeking to maintain an adequate level of voluntary contributions to the Centre, very limited financial**

contributions were made to the Centre in support of its operations. It was also apparent from the Director's fund-raising missions during the reporting period that, while donors were ready to make financial contributions in support of projects and activities, many of them were reluctant to provide financial support to the operating costs of the Centre.

38. Voluntary contributions are key to ensuring the institutional stability of the Centre. Without a solid operational base, the Centre would not be able to implement its programme of work in fulfilment of its mandate. The Secretary-General is seriously concerned about the drastic reduction in voluntary contributions to the Centre during the period under review. As of 30 June 2004, the balance remaining in the Trust Fund for the Centre to cover its operating costs amounts to merely \$2,608. If the financial situation of the Centre does not improve significantly in the coming months, the Centre will not be able to continue to operate, and temporary suspension or relocation of its operations in Lomé would have to be considered. This would seriously affect the revitalization process of the Centre as called for by the General Assembly in December 1998.

39. The Secretary-General therefore reiterates his appeal to Member States and organizations to make contributions to the Centre in order to enable it to fulfil fully its mandate in the African region, where challenges to peace and disarmament continue to grow in alarming proportions.



## Annex I

**Status of the Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and  
Disarmament in Africa for the biennium 2002-2003**

	<i>United States dollars</i>
Fund balance, 31 December 2001	84,580
Income, 1 January 2002 - 31 December 2003	
Voluntary contributions *	682,480
Interest income	13,690
Other/miscellaneous income	14,521
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>795,271</b>
Expenditures 1 January 2001 - 31 December 2003	350,176
<b>Fund balance, 31 December 2003</b>	<b>445,095<sup>2</sup></b>

Note: This information is based on the financial statement for the period 1 January 2002 to 31 December 2003. During the period from 1 January to 30 June 2004, no additional contributions have been received.

\* In 2002, from Belgium (\$10,666), France (\$67,506), Norway (\$25,000), Sweden (\$21,000) and the Organization of African Unity (\$10,000). In 2003, from Austria (\$10,000), Finland (\$376,901), France (\$89,051), Luxembourg (\$11,861), Norway (\$25) and the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (\$60,470).

<sup>2</sup> Out of this balance, \$310,827 are earmarked for *Small Arms Transparency and Control Regime in Africa* (SATCRA) project, \$60,505 for the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) project and the remaining \$76,371 for the Centre's operating costs. As of 30 June 2004, the balance of \$2,608 is available for the operating costs.

## Annex II

### Planned activities of the Centre for which funding is sought

#### Project I

Title of project	Promotion of civil-military relations in Africa: a factor of peace and security
Purpose	Consolidation of the role of the military in the democratic process  Adoption of a continent-wide code of conduct for armed forces and security forces in Africa  Promotion of durable peace and security through harmonious civilian-military relationships
Location	Project conceptualization and design: United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, Lomé  Project implementation: several African States
Duration	Two years

Number of participants      Two participants from each of the 50 African countries members of the Organization of African Unity (African Union)

Cost estimates (United States dollars)

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Project staff (three staff, two years)	223 600
Travel and conference costs (five days, 100 participants)	223 250
National project implementation in 10 pilot countries	45 000
Project operating costs	36 000
Publication and distribution of the code of conduct	21 750
<b>Total</b>	<b>549 600</b>

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**Project II**

Title of project	Capacity-building in small arms control for security and other law enforcement officials in the southern African sub-region, member States of the Southern African Development Community
Purpose	To strengthen the capacities of law enforcement and other security officials in the southern African sub-region by providing them with modern techniques and tools for small arms control
Location	The first phase will be a curriculum formulation meeting in Lomé, headquarters of the Regional Centre  The second phase will be a training-of-trainers workshop in Windhoek
Duration	Six months
Number of participants	55 from the subregion  12 resource persons  1 Project Coordinator

## Cost estimates

(United States Dollars)

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Curriculum formulation workshop (three days, 12 experts), bringing together 12 experts from the subregion to reflect on and adopt elements compiled by the Regional Centre for a training curriculum	22 520
Project Coordinator for the training-of-trainers programme (five months)	8 000
Training-of-trainers workshop (two weeks, 50 participants, 12 trainers)	215 550
Total	246 070

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**Project III**

Title of project	Capacity-building of focal points in the framework of the 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
Partnership	The Nairobi secretariat and relevant non-governmental organizations active in the field
Purpose	Strengthening, and helping to establish, where they do not yet exist, the focal point institutions charged with the responsibility of implementing the Nairobi Declaration at the national level in the signatory States
Location	Project implementation: the 10 States signatories to the Nairobi Declaration (Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda)
Duration	Ten weeks
Number of participants	Ten participants from the 10 States

## signatories to the Nairobi Declaration

Cost estimates	(United States dollars)
Project design and operation (includes one Project Coordinator, four months)	9 900
Publication of teaching manuals	15 750
National workshops (includes travel of two resource persons, Project Coordinator and two staff members, and conference and operating costs)	77 000
Total	102 650