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United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean continued to organize and participate in a growing number of activities in the reporting period. Through intensified cooperation with Member States in the region, United Nations agencies, international organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the Centre continued to serve as a platform for discussions and the practical implementation of projects and activities. These included the organization of seminars, training courses, weapons and ammunition destruction events, stockpile management activities, technical advisory missions and dissemination of information.

The Centre devoted increased attention to promoting existing weapons-related agreements, as well as peace and disarmament education involving the diplomatic community, members of parliament, law enforcement officers, NGOs and educational institutions.

During the period under review, the Centre focused its attention on consolidating its programme of activities and organizational structure and to strengthening its human resources capacity, so as to create a more stable and durable foundation for its effective functioning. In this regard, it has continued to develop and undertake new and vigorous fund-raising efforts to sustain its current and future operational base.

* A/59/150.

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I. Introduction

1. On 8 December 2003, the General Assembly adopted, without a vote, resolution 58/60, entitled “United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean”. By paragraphs 9 and 10 of the resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it might carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the resolution.

2. The present report is submitted pursuant to the above-mentioned request and covers the activities of the Centre from July 2003 to June 2004. A list of activities carried out by the Centre in the period under review appears in annex I to the report. A financial statement on the status of the Trust Fund for the Centre for the biennium 2002-2003 is contained in annex II. An outline of the planned activities of the Centre for which funding is invited from interested donor countries and organizations appears in annex III. The organizational structure of the Centre appears in annex IV.

II. Functioning and mandate

3. The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, located in Lima, was established in 1987, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 41/60 J of 3 December 1986. The Centre functions under the auspices of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat and is mandated to provide, upon request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, and for the promotion of economic and social development.

4. The Centre has been operational for almost two decades, with a short suspension of its operations between the years 1996 and 1998, owing to insufficient voluntary contributions to finance its activities and administrative costs. The Centre has enjoyed a dynamic resurgence of voluntary funding for its activities, following the appointment of the Director of the Centre by the Secretary-General and his subsequent assumption of office on 1 December 1998.

5. In pursuit of its mandate, the Centre continued to serve the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean as: (a) a means of promoting subregional, regional and cross-regional activities; (b) a platform for identifying synergies between security and development issues; and (c) a proactive contributor to the establishment of a more secure environment for social and economic development in the region.

III. Activities

6. During the period under review, the Centre continued and significantly expanded its activities under its current programmes of work and through the initiation of new projects. The activities of the Centre included assistance to Governments in areas related to confidence-building and security-building, such as

support for conventional weapons methodology studies; practical disarmament, such as the destruction of firearms, ammunition, explosives and improvement of stockpile management practices; and capacity-building, such as training courses for the law enforcement community and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

7. The Centre also provided support to strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), as well as promoting and assisting the ratification and implementation of existing multilateral agreements related to weapons of mass destruction. Peace and disarmament education projects also achieved considerable progress during the period under review. Some of the new activities initiated included coordination with States and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the development of national disarmament and development-related studies. A wide range of coordination missions were also undertaken by the Centre during the period under review.

A. Providing a platform to address subregional and regional security issues

1. Confidence and security-building measures

8. The Regional Centre assumed a key role in a new cooperation initiative between the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Department of Political Affairs aimed at assuring greater transparency in military issues, and clarifying the political responsibilities of the security sector, as well as providing a platform for civil society participation in security and defence issues in Latin America and the Caribbean.

9. The first activity related to confidence-building and security-building measures was the launching of a project on the strengthening of democratic values designed to identify key guidelines for the preparation of Defence White Books. To this end, the Centre organized, on 13 and 14 November 2003, a meeting of security experts in Lima to discuss possible guidelines and to compare Defence White Books in the region. The process is expected to be completed in the first semester of 2005.

10. Other activities included assistance in a methodological study to compare and identify the military expenditures of Chile and Peru, therefore providing a tool for discussion on the missions, objectives and policies of defence. This activity was undertaken at the request of the Governments of Chile and Peru on 18 December 2003 and will be carried out in cooperation with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. Inter-agency coordination and cooperation

11. The Centre conducted an assessment of the Central American disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes and carried out consultation meetings with United Nations agencies, Governments, donors and NGOs. A United Nations inter-agency meeting was held on 5 September 2003, in Lima to compile information and analyse disarmament, demobilization and reintegration lessons learned in the region, as well as to identify and promote possible joint actions between United Nations agencies. Plans to create a platform for capacity-building of United Nations staff and to promote monitoring of the general security situation

related to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration among United Nations agencies in the region are currently under discussion.

12. The Centre discussed with the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Fund for Women possibilities for cooperation on issues relating to children and gender within the Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism. The implementation by the Centre of the Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan of the Department for Disarmament Affairs was among one of its new activities, which entailed the incorporation of gender perspectives into the work of the Centre, with a view to strengthening the contribution of women to disarmament.

3. Anti-personnel landmines

13. The Centre continued to promote the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction in Latin America and the Caribbean by participating in an Organization of American States (OAS) conference on a hemisphere free of anti-personnel landmines, held on 14 and 15 August 2003 in Lima. In addition, the Centre and the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs continued to develop a project aimed at reintegrating victims of landmine and explosive ordnance into productive life in Peru.

4. Implementation of the 2001 Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade of Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

14. Throughout the period under review, the Centre implemented a number of activities aimed at consolidating its Regional Clearing-house Programme on Firearms, Ammunition and Explosives, which was developed to support States in the implementation of regional firearms instruments such as the Programme of Action, the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials and the Model Regulations for the Control of the International Movement of Firearms, Their Parts, Components and Ammunition (Model Regulations). All these activities were related to specific articles of the above and other firearms legal instruments.

15. On 25 May 2004, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Small Arms and Demobilization Unit of UNDP. The memorandum facilitated cooperation between the Unit and the Department, through the Centre, in providing assistance to States in firearms collection, weapons destruction and stockpile management. Subsequently, on 7 June 2004, a letter of exchange was signed between the Unit and the Centre, formalizing cooperation and coordination between the two organizations in several areas, such as undertaking five joint activities during the second semester of 2004 to assist States in reporting on their implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action and training courses on various issues, in particular disarmament and development.

Seminars, workshops and technical support

16. On 1 July 2003, the Centre organized a meeting in New York to assist the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States in reporting on their implementation of the Programme of Action. During the meeting, the Centre briefed participants on activities related to its Regional Clearing-house Programme. As a means of

implementing the Programme of Action, the meeting called for the establishment or improvement of contacts with firearms manufacturers and traders, undertaking weapons destruction campaigns and educational programmes on disarmament, and creating mechanisms for exchanging information on the exportation, importation and transit of firearms.

17. With a view to promoting increased coordination, cooperation and integration in the fight against the trafficking of illicit firearms, the Centre organized, in Rio de Janeiro, from 28 to 30 April 2004, a seminar aimed at designing new strategies to strengthen firearms control and to curb their illicit trafficking in Brazil's south-eastern region. The seminar was organized in cooperation with the Brazilian authorities, the OAS Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the OAS and the Small Arms and Demobilization Unit of UNDP. It provided a platform for sharing information on and increasing knowledge of the flow of firearms in Brazil's south-eastern region, so as to assist participants in the adoption of a more focused and informed approach in effectively curbing the trafficking of illicit firearms in the region. The Centre is planning to organize similar seminars later in the year.

18. The Centre, CICAD/OAS and the Swedish Fellowship for Reconciliation jointly prepared a book on legal norms and instruments on firearms, ammunition and explosives in Latin America and the Caribbean. The book is intended to serve as a technical assistance tool for members of parliament and legal experts when discussing opportunities to harmonize, homologate and improve firearms legislation and mechanisms of control in the region, and as a training tool for participants in training courses. The Centre is also undertaking consultations with the Central American Integration System, the Andean Community of Nations (CAN), members of parliament and with various countries of the Southern Cone Common Market (MERCOSUR) and Associated States and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), with a view to promoting closer collaboration in the project.

19. Between 30 September and 10 October 2003, the Centre organized a national seminar in Asuncion to assist the Government of Paraguay in the promotion of a new firearms law in the country. Representatives of the Paraguayan judicial and legislative departments, armed forces, national police, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and NGOs, among others, participated. The seminar was the first in a series aimed at enhancing relations and coordination among the different law enforcement entities. The Centre also provided similar technical assistance to members of the Paraguayan parliament in assessing firearms legislation of various countries and discussing possible areas of improvement in such legislation.

20. The Centre created a software database entitled "FInData" which contains information on the manufacture of firearms, ammunition and explosives and the legal trade of firearms in the commercial sector. The system also contains, inter alia, information on an informal network, a reflection group, and documents and events. The database serves as an information platform for manufacturers and brokers on issues related to the implementation of national and international legal instruments, including the Programme of Action.

21. The Centre also discussed with International Alert possible cooperation in the area of firearms issues, including implementation of the Programme of Action, in particular the setting up of national commissions, supporting national and local

initiatives, and the potential role of the United Nations as a platform for regional firearms control initiatives.

22. Since May 2004, the Centre has been coordinating and cooperating with UNDP country offices in the planning of firearms-related activities, especially in Central America. Discussions are under way to extend such cooperation to members of the Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism, along with UNDP and the Centre.

Training courses

23. Significant advances were made within the framework of the project regarding commercial trade of and illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and ammunition, undertaken by the Centre in cooperation with the United Nations University for Peace, CICAD/OAS, and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol). A series of training courses were organized for the police, intelligence and armed forces officers, customs officials and other members of the law enforcement community. The first training course, designed for the States of the Central American Integration System, Cuba and the Dominican Republic, was held from 8 to 26 March 2004, in Ciudad Colon, Costa Rica. A second training course was organized for representatives from MERCOSUR and Associated States from 3 to 21 May 2004 in Brasilia, Brazil. Some 85 law enforcement officials from 15 countries were trained in human security issues, legal instruments, research, firearms trafficking routes, weapons destruction, and stockpile management, as well as other related themes, such as drugs, terrorism and money-laundering. Additional training courses will be carried out in the course of the second semester of 2004 for representatives from the CARICOM and CAN subregions.

24. The Centre continued its cooperation with NGOs in a project aimed at building capacity, strengthening the regional network and supporting work on control of firearms trafficking. In addition to providing a platform for exchange of information and experiences, the Centre organized a number of training courses for NGOs in 2003 (6 to 12 October, in Lima; 24 to 30 November, in San José; 1 to 5 December, in San Salvador) and in 2004 (1 and 2 April, in San Salvador), in collaboration with its partners (Viva Rio, Small Arms Survey, the Arias Foundation, the Swedish Fellowship for Reconciliation and International Alert and Save the Children (Sweden)). Some 94 NGO participants and instructors from Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama received training on capacity-building during the reporting period. The courses were also attended by diplomats, Government officials, parliamentarians, media representatives and donors. The issue of gender constitutes an important aspect of this training, in which 55.3 per cent of the participants were women. Two additional training courses are scheduled for the second semester of 2004 in Brazil and Peru, respectively.

Weapons destruction and stockpile management initiatives

25. In response to a request of the Government of Paraguay, the Centre and its partners (the UNDP Small Arms and Demobilization Unit, the OAS Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police) destroyed a total of 2,615 firearms, 263,800 small-calibre units of ammunition and 70,601.67 tonnes of high-calibre ammunition in Piribebuy and Filadelfia, El Chaco.

The Centre also continued to assist Peru by providing technical support, cooperation in firearms destruction activities and improvement of security-related aspects of one of Peru's firearms stockpile facilities.

Dissemination of information in the region

26. As a way to improve communication and networking, the Centre completed the development of its Small Arms and Light Weapons Administration system and presented it to the States parties to the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials, at their first Conference on the Convention, held on 9 March 2004. The system, now accessible to all States parties to the Convention, is expected to accelerate the information flow between them and to serve as a practical tool for gathering information on the implementation of the Convention.

27. The States parties to the Convention are currently looking into the most efficient way in which the system may serve as an electronic platform for the exchange of information on firearms-related issues.

28. An agreement was reached between the Centre and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on the creation of a shared database on international security. The database is currently under development, with the support of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, the University Centre for International Studies of the University of Pittsburgh, United States of America, and the International Relations and Security Network at the Centre for Security Studies of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology.

B. Cooperation with intergovernmental organizations

29. Following the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Organization for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) on 29 April 2003, the Centre has been engaged in close coordination and cooperation with OPANAL in developing and undertaking joint activities aimed at strengthening the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

30. Cooperation also continues with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, OPANAL and the Centre, with the aim of encouraging and assisting with the ratification and implementation of agreements related to weapons of mass destruction.

C. Peace education

31. The Centre continued to coordinate with the Peruvian NGO, Educa, in the implementation of a Department for Disarmament Affairs project on developing peace and disarmament education initiatives, aimed at preventing a culture of guns among youth. The Centre also began work on an animated film series entitled "The Peacemaker", aimed at stimulating a culture of peace by raising awareness of non-violence, so as to change the basic attitudes of people with respect to peace, security

and disarmament. Several episodes of “The Peacemaker” will be devoted to presenting the entire scope of activities of the Centre. Discussions are under way with other United Nations agencies for joint ventures in the area of peace education.

D. Public outreach

32. During the reporting period, the Centre continued its public outreach through distribution of its audio-visual materials and organization of courses, seminars and workshops. Several different types of publications describing the activities undertaken by the Centre were produced and distributed, as were numerous audio-visual products, manuals and reference material for training courses and seminars. Information folders and CD-ROMs on various subjects were finalized and distributed, including the Parliamentary Exchange Initiative, law enforcement and training, NGO capacity-building, networking and strengthening NGOs’ advocacy capacity, and firearms and ammunition destruction and stockpile management.

IV. Staffing, financing and administration

33. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/60 J, the Centre was established on the basis of existing resources and of voluntary contributions made by Member States and interested organizations for its core and programme functions.

34. During the reporting period, voluntary contributions in the amount of US\$ 2,624,489 were received. In addition, a number of Governments and institutions contributed to the work of the Centre by sharing or absorbing the cost of joint events, personnel and/or material resources. The Secretary-General wishes to express his gratitude to the Governments of Guyana, Mexico, Panama, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the European Commission, Save The Children Sweden and the Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation for their generous support. The Centre also received US\$ 170,500 from the Global and Regional Disarmament Trust Fund during the period under review.

35. The Director of the Centre continued to undertake an intensive fund-raising campaign and, in this connection, the Centre is undertaking a new fund-raising strategy that seeks to secure long-term contribution agreements with donors. This will allow for a more stable financial situation at the Centre and ensure funding, not only for activities but also for some core staff and expenses. It is worth noting that, during the period under review, the Centre received an increased number of proposals for partnerships and common projects from countries and organizations in the region.

36. During the reporting period, the Centre was able to further strengthen its human resource capacity through building into project proposals the staffing requirements for each project. Currently, besides the Director, the staff of the Centre comprises one associate expert from Sweden, one senior project officer, one programme officer, one webmaster, nine programme/project/webmaster assistants, five programme/project coordinators, two computer programmers, two administrative assistants, one project secretary, two General Service staff and one

driver. Provision has also been made to create a post for a programme officer to assist the Director and to serve as his deputy in his absence.

37. Pursuant to the consideration by 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

38. **The Centre has continued to act as a facilitator for the implementation of regional initiatives by identifying regional security needs and new areas of cooperation with States and organizations in the region. It has continued to provide more in-depth information on weapons-related matters, weapons destruction and stockpile management, including the initiation of a series of training courses for the law enforcement community, members of parliament, representatives of ministries of foreign affairs and NGOs on such matters. The Centre has developed a public information strategy to promote better dissemination of information on security issues among diplomats, the military, NGOs and civil society. It has also placed more emphasis on the inclusion of gender perspectives in its planned activities and the relationship between disarmament and development.**

39. **The Centre continued to intensify its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and security in the region and, as a means of avoiding duplication of efforts, has enhanced the utilization of existing memorandums of understanding with subregional, regional and global organizations, as well as NGOs in undertaking joint activities. The vast regional cooperation undertaken by the Centre during the reporting period was evidence of the important role of the Organization as a viable regional actor in assisting countries in the region to advance the cause of peace, disarmament and development in Latin America and the Caribbean.**

40. **The strong financial support received by the Centre during the reporting period has enabled it not only to maintain, but also to expand its scope of activities, especially in the field of small arms and light weapons. The Centre was also able to strengthen its human resources, thus enhancing its operational capacity to assist Member States in the region.**

41. **The Secretary-General counts on the continued and increasing support and cooperation of Member States and organizations to ensure the effective functioning of the Centre.**

Annex I

List of selected activities organized by the Centre in 2003-2004

Confidence-building and Security-building Measures Programme

- Meeting on strengthening democratic values, practices and human security: Defence White Book (13 and 14 November 2003, in Lima)
- Meeting on Chile-Peru standardized military procurement (15 March 2004, in Lima)

Disarmament and Development Programme

- Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration: regional inter-agency meetings (1 and 2 September 2003, in Lima)
- Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration: inter-agency meeting (30 April 2004, in Lima)

Regional Clearing-house Programme on Firearms, Ammunition and Explosives

- Seminar on Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade of Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects: Latin America and Caribbean actions (1 July 2003, in New York, United States of America)
- Presentation of the Centre's Regional Clearing-house Programme on Firearms, Ammunition and Explosives (7 July 2003, in New York, United States)
- 2006 Lima Challenge: weapons and ammunition destruction events (24 August to 6 October 2003, in Piribebuy and Filadelfia, Paraguay)
- National Seminar on New Challenges for the Republic of Paraguay in the Fight to Control, Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Firearms, Ammunition and Explosives (30 September to 1 October 2003, in Asuncion)
- Seminar on Firearms in Latin America and the Caribbean: Between Research and Advocacy in Lima (6 to 12 October, in Lima)
- NGO capacity-building: instructors training course (7 to 11 October 2003, in Lima)
- Second round of meetings on Understanding Illicit Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition and Explosives in Colombia (7 November 2003, in Bogotá)
- NGO capacity-building: first training course (24 to 29 November 2003, in San José)
- NGO capacity-building: second training course (1 to 5 December 2003, in San Salvador)

- Training the trainers firearms investigative techniques course: Central American Integration System States (22 to 26 March 2004, in San José)
- Seminar on new strategies to strengthen firearms control and to curb their illicit trafficking in Brazil's south-eastern region (28 to 30 April 2004, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)
- Training the trainers firearms investigative techniques course: MERCOSUR and Associated States (3 to 21 May 2004, in Brasilia)

Annex II

**Status of the Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional
Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin
America and the Caribbean for the biennium 2002-2003**

	<i>United States dollars</i>
Fund balance, 31 December 2001	137 307
Income, 1 January 2002-31 December 2003	
Voluntary contributions ^a	2 632 685
Interest income	43 530
Other/miscellaneous income	592
Subtotal	2 814 114
Expenditures, 1 January 2002-31 December 2003	1 768 170
Fund balance, 31 December 2003	1 045 944

Note: Information is based on the financial statement for the period from 1 January 2002 to 31 December 2003. During the period from 1 January to 30 June 2004, additional contributions totalling \$1,333,808 were received from Guyana (\$997), Sweden/Sida (\$536,523), the United Kingdom (\$643,500), the European Commission (\$19,662), Save the Children Sweden (\$11,634) and the Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation (\$121,492).

^a 2002: Belgium (\$10,667), Mexico (\$5,000), Netherlands (\$146,317), Norway (\$14,975), Panama (\$2,000), Peru (\$30,000), Sweden (\$21,000), Switzerland (\$49,950), the United Kingdom (\$105,753), the European Commission (\$276,748) and the Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation (\$136,985).

2003: Mexico (\$4,681), Norway (\$50), Panama (\$1,000), Sweden/Sida (\$482,770), Switzerland (\$50), the United Kingdom (\$414,390), the European Commission (\$802,157) and the Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation (\$128,192).

Annex III

Planned activities of the Centre for which funding is sought

Project I

Title of project

Regional Workshop to Follow up on the Implementation of and Prepare Reports on the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

Purpose

To facilitate States of the Latin America and Caribbean region to jointly assess the status of implementation of and discuss methodologies for reporting on the 2001 Programme of Action in the region; to identify new coordination and cooperation opportunities, as well as to assess means and procedures to explore the Centre's Small Arms and Light Weapons Administration System in reporting activities related to the 2001 Programme of Action in the region.

Location

Montevideo

Duration

3 days

Number of participants

33 countries of the region: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela.

<i>Cost estimates</i>	<i>United States dollars</i>
Travel of participants (33)	109 500
Travel of experts (12)	34 400
Travel of staff (3)	7 000
Interpretation (English, French and Spanish)	6 900
Workshop documentation	2 600
Total	160 400

Project II

Title of project

Latin America and Caribbean Workshop to Promote Participation in Conventional Arms Register Instruments

Purpose

To provide subregional forums for promoting, at the regional level, the participation of Latin American and Caribbean countries in conventional arms register instruments, such as the United Nations 1978 Conventional Arms Register, the United Nations Military Budget Instrument and the OAS 1997 Transparency Convention; to discuss the similarities and differences of the various reporting instruments; to assess the different efforts employed by countries to regroup reporting information; and to assess new approaches to support a common and systematic reporting system, including training and other capacity-building opportunities.

Location

Nassau: CARICOM States

Buenos Aires: MERCOSUR and Associated States

Tegucigalpa: SICA States

Quito: Andean Community States

Duration

2 days each workshop

Number of participants

33 countries of the region:

Nassau: CARICOM States (Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago);

Buenos Aires: MERCOSUR (Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay) and Chile;

Tegucigalpa: SICA States (Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Panama), Cuba, Dominican Republic and Mexico;

Quito: Andean Community States (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela).

<i>Cost estimates</i>	<i>United States dollars</i>
Travel of participants to 4 workshops (33 in total)	45 900
Travel of 3 experts to 4 workshops (12 in total)	19 000
Travel of 3 staff members to 4 workshops (12 in total)	7 000
Interpretation (English, French and Spanish)	6 900
Workshop documentation (4 workshops)	8 000
Total	86 800

Project III

Title of project

The Latin America and Caribbean and Europe Relationship: from Cooperation to Partnership Workshop

Purpose

To assist Latin America and Caribbean and European Union States to assess their implementation of the recommendations made at the summits between the Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean and the European Union, which are held each two years. The Workshop will focus on the Rio de Janeiro Plan of Action, the Madrid and Guadalajara recommendations to foster discussion on cooperation and coordination opportunities, as well as to provide a platform to identify practical cross-regional means of implementation and cooperation.

Location

Lima

Duration

3 days

Number of participants

33 countries of the region: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela.

<i>Cost estimates</i>	<i>United States dollars</i>
Travel of participants (33)	100 900
Travel of experts (12)	37 800
Travel of staff (3)	7 000
Interpretation (English, French and Spanish)	6 900
Workshop documentation	2 600
Total	155 200

Project IV

Title of project

Regional Workshop on Weapons of Mass Destruction and Their Delivery Vehicles Legislation

Purpose

To facilitate States of Latin America and the Caribbean to jointly assess the status of national legislation on weapons of mass destruction and their delivery vehicles in the region; to identify new coordination and cooperation opportunities; and to propose solutions to any problems that might hamper the work undertaken either individually or jointly. The Centre will prepare a draft publication on national legislation to assist countries in their discussions.

Location

Brasilia

Duration

3 days

Number of participants

33 countries of the region: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela.

<i>Cost estimates</i>	<i>United States dollars</i>
Travel of participants (33)	94 900
Travel of experts (8)	23 700
Travel of staff (3)	8 000
Interpretation (English, French and Spanish)	6 900
Assessment of National Legislation for 33 countries	10 000
Assessment of National Legislation printing	7 000
Workshop documentation	2 600
Total	153 100

Annex IV Organization chart of the Centre

