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The Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Department for Disarmament Affairs and, with reference to the latter’s note verbale DDA/11-2002/TSA dated 19 February 2002 concerning resolution 56/24 V, has the honor to transmit information about the Japanese Government’s information with respect to operative paragraph 12 on the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

The Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

26 June 2002

/S/
Measures Taken by the Government of Japan to Implement the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

1. The Government of Japan (GOJ) hosted the “Tokyo Follow-up Meeting of the UN Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects” on 23-25 January 2002, the Chairperson’s summary of which has been circulated as UN document A/56/810-S/2002/145.

2. The GOJ is supporting several activities of the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs through the UN Trust Fund for Global and Regional Disarmament Activities to which the GOJ has contributed. These include:

(1) Clearing House Project to support sub-regional efforts in Central Africa to strengthen national capacities conducted by the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;
(2) Capacity-building initiative to strengthen and network regional civil society/NGO advocacy efforts, and the initiative to upgrade database to facilitate improved cooperation and coordination among Latin American and Caribbean countries to combat illicit trafficking, conducted by the UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;
(3) Project identification mission to Papua New Guinea (Bougainville) in support of the United Nations Political Office in Bougainville (UNPOB) and UNDP activities towards implementation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement;
(4) Fact-finding and project identification missions to Cambodia to support national initiatives for small arms collection;
(5) Weapons Collection Project in N’Guigmi, Niger;
(6) Project identification mission to Sri Lanka to explore the potential for UN assistance to national efforts to address the threat posed by illicit small arms; and
(7) Electronic database project intended to provide information on progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.
3. In addition, the GOJ is bilaterally implementing the following projects:

(1) Weapons for Development Project in Cambodia, in cooperation with the EU and the Government of Cambodia; and

(2) UNIDIR project, entitled “Weapons for Development: Lessons Learned from Weapons Collection Programmes,” which provides a detailed analysis of selected weapons collection programmes in order to assist relevant countries, international organizations, and civil societies to devise better strategies to collect weapons from civilians and former combatants.