

**NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS PROGRAM OF ACTION TO PREVENT,
COMBAT AND ERADICATE THE ILLICIT TRADE IN SMALL
ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS IN ALL ITS ASPECTS,**

Submitted by
the Government of the Solomon Islands

on the Occasion of the First Biennial Meeting of States on the
Implementation of the Program of Action of the 2001 United Nations
Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in
All Its Aspects

New York, July 7–11, 2003

Honiara
June 15, 2003

Note Verbale

With reference to the letter of the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs dated January 13, 2003—DDA/3-2003/TSA—, Solomon Islands hereby submits its National Report on the Implementation of the United Nations Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. The Solomon Islands Government agrees to the publication of the entire report on the website of the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs.

Honiara, June 15, 2003

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
P.O. Box G10
Honiara, Solomon Islands
Telephone + (677) 28612
Facsimile + (677) 20351

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS _____ **8**

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS _____ **9**

A. NATIONAL LEVEL _____ **10**

1. National Coordination Agency _____ **10**

1.i) Does your country have a national coordination agency or body that is responsible for policy guidance, research and monitoring of efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects? _____ **10**

2. National Point of Contact _____ **10**

2.i) Does your country have a national point of contact to act as liaison with other States on matters relating to the implementation of the U.N. Program of Action? _____ **10**

3. Legislation, Regulations, and Administrative Procedures _____ **10**

3.i) What national laws, regulations and administrative procedures exist to exercise effective control over SALW in the areas of production, export, import, transit, retransfer? _____ **10**

3.ii) What national measures exist to prevent the manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and possession of unmarked or inadequately marked SALW? How have these been implemented? _____ **12**

3.iii) Please describe how national laws, regulations and procedures that impact on the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects are made public _____ **13**

4. Law Enforcement and Criminalization _____ **13**

4.i) What national legislative or other measures exist to make the illegal manufacture, possession, stockpiling and trade of SALW criminal offenses under domestic law? How have these measures been implemented? _____ **13**

4.ii) Have those groups and individuals engaged in the illegal manufacture, trade, stockpiling, transfer, possession, as well as financing for acquisition, of illicit SALW been identified, where applicable? What action has been taken under appropriate national law against such groups and individuals? _____ **15**

4.iii) What national measures have been taken, including legal or administrative means, against activity that violates a United Nations Security Council arms embargo in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations? _____ **16**

5. Stockpile Management and Security _____ **16**

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS _____ **16**

5.i) What national standards and procedures exist for the management and security of SALW stocks held by armed forces, police or other authorized bodies? _____ **16**

5.ii) How often are stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies reviewed? _____ **17**

5.iii) How are those stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies that are surplus to requirements identified? _____ **17**

6. Collection and Disposal	17
INTRODUCTORY REMARKS	17
6.i) Please give details of any national programs that have been established and implemented for the responsible disposal of surplus stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies	17
6.ii) Is destruction the means used to dispose of such stocks?	18
6.iii) What national measures exist to safeguard such stocks prior to their disposal?	18
6.iv) Subject to the exceptions set out in UNPoA II:16, are all confiscated, seized or collected SALW destroyed?	18
6.v) What methods has your country used to destroy surplus stocks of SALW designated for destruction? (If appropriate, please make reference to the report of the U.N. Secretary-General [S/2000/1092] of November 15, 2000)	18
6.vi) Please give details of any information on SALW confiscated or destroyed within your jurisdiction that is submitted to relevant regional and international organizations	18
7. Export Controls	18
7.i) Please describe the system of export and import licensing or authorization, as well as measures on international transit, used by your country for the transfer of all SALW	18
7.ii) Please describe the national laws, regulations and administrative procedures used by your country to ensure effective control over the export and transit of SALW. How are these measures implemented?	18
7.iii) Does your country use authenticated end-user certificates for this purpose?	18
7.iv) Does your country notify the original exporting State when re-exporting or retransferring previously imported SALW?	18
8. Brokering	18
8.i) What national legislation or administrative procedures exist to regulate the activities of those who engage in SALW brokering within national jurisdiction and control? (e.g. registration of brokers, licensing or authorization of brokering transactions and appropriate penalties)	18
9. Marking, Record keeping and Tracing	19
9.i) Does your country require licensed manufacturers of SALW to apply an appropriate and reliable marking on each weapon as an integral part of the production process?	19
9.ii) Is this marking unique?	19
9.iii) Does this marking identify the country of manufacture?	19
9.iv) How does this marking otherwise allow concerned authorities to identify and trace the relevant weapon?	19
9.v) How long are records kept on the manufacture, holding and transfer of SALW under your jurisdiction?	19
9.vi) What national measures exist for tracing SALW held and issued by the State?	19

9.vii) Please give details of any steps taken by your country to cooperate in tracing illicit SALW, including the strengthening of mechanisms based on the exchange of relevant information _____	19
10. Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) _____	19
10.i) Please describe any disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) programmes your country has developed and implemented, including the effective collection, control, storage and destruction of SALW _____	19
COLLECTION AND DESTRUCTION OF SALW _____	20
DISARMAMENT AND DEMOBILIZATION _____	20
10.ii) Please describe how your country has addressed the special needs of children affected by armed conflict, in particular the reunification with their family, their reintegration into civil society, and their appropriate rehabilitation _____	21
10.iii) Please describe any DDR programmes or activities that your country has supported _____	21
11. Awareness-Raising _____	21
11.i) Please describe any public awareness and confidence-building programmes on the problems and consequences of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has developed and implemented (including the public destruction of surplus weapons and the voluntary surrender of SALW) _____	21
11.ii) Please describe any education and public awareness programmes on the problems of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has encouraged _____	22
B. REGIONAL LEVEL _____	22
1. Legally Binding Instruments _____	22
1.i) Has your country been involved in negotiations for the conclusion of legally binding instruments aimed at preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects? _____	22
1.ii) Where such instruments exist, please describe the steps your country has taken to ratify and fully implement them _____	22
2. Moratoria and Action Programs _____	22
2.i) Please give details of any support your country has given moratoria or similar initiatives on the transfer and manufacture of SALW, and/or regional action programmes to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects (including cooperation with States concerned in the implementation of these initiatives) _____	22
3. Regional Cooperation _____	23
3.i) Please describe any involvement your country has had in the establishment of subregional or regional mechanisms with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALW across borders (in particular trans-border customs cooperation and networks for information-sharing among law enforcement, border and customs control agencies) _____	23
REGIONAL MECHANISMS _____	23
BORDER CONTROL _____	24
3.ii) Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to encourage regional and	

<i>subregional action on illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects in order to, as appropriate, introduce, adhere, implement or strengthen relevant laws, regulations and administrative procedures</i>	25
C. GLOBAL LEVEL	25
1. International Instruments Against Terrorism and Organized Crime	25
1.i) <i>What existing international legal instruments against terrorism and transnational organized crime has your country ratified or acceded to?</i>	25
2. International Cooperation and Assistance	26
INTRODUCTORY REMARKS	26
2.i) <i>Please give details of any assistance, including technical and financial assistance, your country has provided for purposes of supporting the implementation of the measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects as contained in UNPoA</i>	26
2.ii) <i>Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to enhance mutual legal assistance and other forms of cooperation in order to assist investigations and prosecutions in relation to the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects</i>	26
2.iii) <i>Please give details of any assistance your country has provided to combat the illicit trade in SALW linked to drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism</i>	26
2.iv) <i>Please give details of your country's cooperation with Interpol for the purpose of identifying those groups and individuals engaged in the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects</i>	26
2.v) <i>Please give details of your country's use and support of Interpol's International Weapons and Explosives Tracking System database (including providing relevant information on the illicit trade in SALW)</i>	26
2.vi) <i>Please give details of your country's cooperation with the U.N. system to ensure the effective implementation of arms embargoes decided by the U.N. Security Council in accordance with the U.N. Charter</i>	26
2.vii) <i>Please describe any steps your country has taken in cooperation with other states, or regional or international organizations, to develop common understandings of the basic issues and the scope of the problems related to illicit brokering in SALW</i>	26
3. Cooperation with Civil Society and Nongovernmental Organizations	27
3.i) <i>Please give details of cooperation with civil society and non-governmental organizations in activities related to the prevention, combat and eradication of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects, at the national, regional and global levels</i>	27
4. Information Exchange	27
4.i) <i>Please describe any steps taken by your country to exchange information on national marking systems on SALW</i>	27
4.ii) <i>Please give details of any information on, inter alia, SALW confiscated or destroyed within national jurisdiction, or other relevant information such as illicit trade routes and techniques of acquisition, that your country has submitted to relevant regional and international organizations</i>	27

5. Training, Capacity-Building, Research _____ 27

5.i) Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to enhance cooperation and exchange of experience and training among competent officials, including customs, police, intelligence and arms control officials, at the national, regional and global levels in order to combat the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects _____ 27

5.ii) Please describe any regional and international programs for specialist training on small arms stockpile management and security that your country has developed/supported __ 27

5.iii) Please give details of any action-oriented research aimed at facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of the problems associated with the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has developed or supported _____ 28

ANNEX A: TABLE OF WEAPONS SURRENDERED NOVEMBER 2000 – JULY 2001 ____ 28

ANNEX B: ORGANIGRAM OF RESPONSIBLE PERSONS IN SALW CONTROL _____ 29

ABBREVIATIONS

CRIN	– Customs Regional Intelligence Network
DDR	– Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration
FRSC	– (Pacific Islands) Forum Regional Security Committee
IFM	– Isatabu Freedom Movement
IPMT	– International Peace Monitoring Team
MEF	– Malaita Eagle Force
NPC	– National Peace Council
OCO	– Oceania Customs Organisation
PIF	– Pacific Islands Forum
PILOM	– Pacific Islands Law Officers Meeting
PMC	– Peace Monitoring Council
RSIP	– Royal Solomon Islands Police
SC	– Special Constable
SPCPC	– South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference
TPA	– Townsville Peace Agreement

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

On the occasion of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, the problem of small arms and light weapons in the Solomon Islands was captured in the statement by H.E. Mr. Vinci Niel Clodumar, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Nauru to the United Nations, speaking on behalf of the member countries of the Pacific Islands Forum Group, on 10 July, 2001:

“The large-scale transfer of automatic military-style weapons is not a problem in the Pacific. Rather, the problems in the region relate to:

- the availability of old stocks of weapons in the civilian community. Often these weapons are quite basic, reconstructed from World War II leftovers;
- insufficient infrastructure for effective weapons accountancy and effective stockpile management procedures; and
- inadequate legislation to establish effective licensing and registration procedures governing ownership and use of small arms and other non-firearms [and] insufficient facilities for enforcement of this legislation.

...in many Pacific Island countries, the possession or transfer of even a handful of basic weapons into the wrong hands can have a serious impact on security and safety. Indeed, there are recent regional examples where access to or the ready availability of small arms has destabilised regional security, threatened democratic institutions and even contributed to changes in leadership and Government.”¹

Two years hence, the words of Mr. Clodumar continue to reflect the challenges small arms and light weapons pose for the people and government of the Solomon Islands. The following report illustrates efforts and existing capacities to face and overcome these challenges.

¹ Full text of the speech can be found at <http://disarmament.un.org/cab/smallarms/statements/nauruE.html>

A. NATIONAL LEVEL

1. National coordination agency

Solomon Islands does not have a single national coordination agency or body as envisaged in the question. To date, no national coordination effort regarding SALW has been implemented among Solomon Islands Government agencies. In this context –

- (a) the *Ministry of Police, National Security and Justice* is responsible for –
 - law enforcement coordination with the office of the Attorney General;
 - implementing laws and regulations relating to the registration, record keeping, and stockpile management of SALW in use with the Royal Solomon Islands Police (RSIP); and
 - structuring the procurement procedures related to SALW to be used by the RSIP.
- (b) the *Ministry of National Reconciliation and Peace*, created by a provision in the Townsville Peace Agreement (TPA) of 15 October, 2000, has been active in supporting disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) for former combatants in the ethnic violence.
- (c) the *Ministry of Finance* is responsible for customs controls of SALW imports. Solomon Islands does not export SALW.

2. National point of contact

The *Ministry of Foreign Affairs* is fulfilling the task of coordinating SALW-related foreign policy aspects, including the responsibilities of national point of contact. This information will be posted on the UNDDA website in July 2003.

Joseph Ma'ahanua – Assistant Secretary, United Nations Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
P.O. Box G10, Honiara, Solomon Islands
Telephone + (677) 28612
Facsimile + (677) 20351

3. Legislation, regulations, administrative procedures

i) National laws, regulations and administrative procedures that exercise effective control over SALW in the areas of production, export, import, transit, and retransfer.

In addition to the laws listed herein, the Townsville Peace Agreement suspended the importation, manufacture, use, sale and purchase of arms and ammunition “for at least 36 months.”²

Arms acquired by the Solomon Islands Government for the purpose of national defense or national security were considered exempt from this measure.

² For the full text of the Agreement, refer to <http://www.commerce.gov.sb/Others/Peace%20agreement.htm>

National Laws, Regulations and Decrees

<i>Area:</i>	<i>Law/ Regulation/ Decree</i>	<i>Date</i>
Production	Title: <i>Firearms and Ammunition Act to Make Further and Better Provisions for the Control of the Possession, Manufacture, Sale, Repair, Storage, Import and Export of Firearms and Ammunition, and for Matters Incidental Thereto and Connected Therewith</i>	1968 – Amended 1989/ 2000
	Short Title: <i>Firearms and Ammunition Act</i>	
	Description: <i>Section 4(1)</i> : prohibits the manufacture of firearms and ammunition except at an arsenal approved by the Minister, and in accordance with conditions specified by the Minister in writing. <i>Section 4(2)</i> : “manufacture” does not include repair, conversion of firearm into something incapable of firing, or the alteration, substitution or replacement of any component part of a firearm. <i>Section 40 B(2)</i> : no person shall manufacture for use or sale any imitation firearm [Amendment Act, 2000]	
Export	Title: as above	1968 – Amended 1989/ 2000
	Short Title: <i>Firearms and Ammunition Act</i>	
	Description: <i>Section 17(1)</i> : prohibits the export of any firearms or ammunition from Solomon Islands without the appropriate license. <i>Section 17(2)</i> : such license may be obtained by application to the Principal Licensing Officer (Commissioner of Police was so designated 14 October, 1992 by Firearms and Ammunition Act Subsidiary Legislation) on payment of the prescribed fee. <i>Section 18</i> : the Minister may by notice declare that firearms or ammunition shall not be exported from any place except ports or places specified in such notice. No firearms or ammunition shall be exported contrary to the terms of the notice. <i>Section 23(1)</i> : the Minister may by notice prohibit exportation of any firearms, parts or ammunition without a special license issued by the Principal Licensing Officer. <i>Section 24(1)</i> : the owner or master of any vessel used for the importation, exportation, receipt or storage of any firearm, parts or ammunition in contravention of a notice under Sec. 23 shall be liable to a fine of five thousand dollars, unless it can be proven that the offense was committed without his knowledge <i>Section 24(2)</i> : the finding on board any vessel of any firearm, part, or ammunition subject to a prohibition under Sec. 23 shall be prima facie evidence that the vessel has been used for the import/export of firearms, parts or ammunition contrary to the Firearms Act	
Import	Title: as above	1968
	Short Title: <i>Firearms and Ammunition Act</i>	

	<p>Description:</p> <p><i>Section 15(1)</i> : prohibits the import of any firearm, ammunition, or parts thereof into Solomon Islands from without, unless importer holds the appropriate license.</p> <p><i>Section 18</i> : the Minister may by notice declare that firearms or ammunition shall not be imported into any place except ports or places specified in such notice. No firearms or ammunition shall be imported contrary to the terms of such notice.</p> <p><i>Section 19</i> : every person entering Solomon Islands with any firearm or ammunition and every consignee receiving any firearm or ammunition imported into Solomon Islands shall make a declaration thereof to a customs officer on arrival, and before clearing such firearm or ammunition shall produce an import license (issued under Section 15) to such customs officer.</p> <p><i>Section 23(1)</i> : the Minister may by notice prohibit importation of any firearms, parts or ammunition without a special license issued by the Principal Licensing Officer.</p> <p><i>Section 24(1)</i> : the owner or master of any vessel used for the importation, exportation, receipt or storage of any firearm, parts or ammunition in contravention of a notice under Sec. 23 shall be liable to a fine of five thousand dollars, unless it can be proven that the offense was committed without his knowledge</p> <p><i>Section 24(2)</i> : the finding on board any vessel of any firearm, part, or ammunition subject to a prohibition under Sec. 23 shall be prima facie evidence that the vessel has been used for the import/export of firearms, parts or ammunition contrary to the Firearms Act</p> <p><i>Section 40 B(1)</i> : no person shall import into Solomon Islands or sell any imitation firearm [Amendment Act, 2000]</p>	
Transit	Title: as above	1968 – Amended 1989/ 2000
	<p>Short Title: <i>Firearms and Ammunition Act</i></p> <p>Description:</p> <p><i>Section 21</i> : the Principal Licensing Officer may grant, refuse, suspend, or revoke – at his discretion – transit licenses covering the importation into, removal within, transportation across, and exportation from the Solomon Islands of any firearm or ammunition in transit through the country to any place outside Solomon Islands.</p>	
Retransfer	n/a – no law currently exists in this area	

Taken from: *The Laws of Solomon Islands*, Revised Edition. (Hertford, UK: Eyre and Spottiswoode, Ltd.) Volume IV, Cap.80. 1996.

ii) What national measures exist to prevent the manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and possession of unmarked or inadequately marked SALW? How have these been implemented? (II.8)

See section 9 below for information on marking of weapons stored in police arsenals.

iii) Please describe how national laws, regulations and procedures that impact on the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects are made public. (II.23)

National laws, once passed by the National Parliament, are published in the Solomon Islands Gazette. The general public may access the Gazette by visiting the office of the Prime Minister, or by ordering a copy from the printer.

The Parliament House also notifies the local newspaper and radio stations of new legislation. Official announcements of the adoption of new laws are made in the local and national media.

4. Law enforcement/criminalisation

i) What national legislative or other measures exist to make the illegal manufacture, possession, stockpiling and trade of SALW criminal offences under domestic law? How have these measures been implemented? (II.3)

National criminal offences relating to illicit SALW		
<i>Area:</i>	<i>Law / other measure</i>	<i>Date</i>
Manufacture	Title: <i>Firearms and Ammunition Act to Make Further and Better Provisions for the Control of the Possession, Manufacture, Sale, Repair, Storage, Import and Export of Firearms and Ammunition, and for Matters Incidental Thereto and Connected Therewith</i>	1968 – Amended 1989/ 2000
	Short title: <i>Firearms and Ammunition Act</i>	
	Description: <i>Section 4(3)</i> : specifies punishment for the illegal manufacture of SALW of a fine of five thousand dollars or imprisonment for ten years, or both. <i>Section 40 B(3)</i> : any person who contravenes the import, manufacture and sale prohibition provisions of Section 40 B (1) and (2) shall be liable to a fine of one thousand dollars or imprisonment for one year, or both [Amendment Act, 2000]	
Possession	Title: as above	1968 – Amended 1989/ 2000
	Short title: <i>Firearms and Ammunition Act</i>	

	<p>Description:</p> <p><i>Section 5(1)</i> : prohibits the purchase, acquisition, or possession of any firearm or ammunition without a valid firearm license.</p> <p><i>Section 5(2)</i> : the liability for violation of 5(1) is a fine of five thousand dollars or imprisonment for ten years, or both, if the offense is committed in a prohibited area. Elsewhere, the punishment is three thousand dollars or imprisonment for five years, or both.</p> <p><i>Sections 6(1) – 6(8)</i> : procedures for granting and revocation of firearm licenses.</p> <p><i>Section 7</i> : exemptions for specific persons (i.e. bodyguards, warehousemen, rifle club members, licensed dealers, travelers) from licensing requirements.</p> <p><i>Section 26(1)</i> : no person shall sell, purchase or possess any automatic weapon without the authority of the Minister.</p> <p><i>Section 26(2)</i> : contravention of 26(1) is punishable by a fine of one thousand dollars or imprisonment for two years, or both.</p> <p><i>Section 40 A(2)</i> : any person armed with an imitation firearm in public threatening in such a manner as to cause fear to any person shall be liable to a fine of five hundred dollars or imprisonment for one year, or both.</p> <p>[Amendment Act 2000]</p>
	<p>Title: <i>Penal Code: An Act to Establish a Code of Criminal Law</i> 1963</p>
	<p>Short Title: <i>Penal Code</i></p>
	<p>Description:</p> <p><i>Section 83</i> : any person armed in public without lawful occasion in such a manner as to cause fear to any person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and his arms may be forfeited. (<i>Section 41</i> : punishment for misdemeanor shall be imprisonment for not more than two years, a fine, or both.)</p> <p><i>Section 84(1)</i> : the Minister may by order designate any area or public place to be a restricted area or place.</p> <p><i>Section 84(2)</i> : any person who, in a restricted area or place without reasonable excuse, carries or has in his possession any weapon is guilty of a misdemeanor.</p> <p><i>Section 84(3)</i> : any police officer with reason to believe a weapon is being concealed or carried on any person or vehicle in a restricted area may search and detain any such person or vehicle without written authority, and take possession of such weapon [ref: Section 48(1) of <i>Firearms and Ammunition Amendment Act, 2000</i>]</p> <p><i>Section 84(4)</i> : any person obstructing or hindering any police officer from exercising 84(3) shall be guilty of a misdemeanor</p> <p><i>Section 84(5)</i> : when a person is convicted under this section, the court may order such weapon to be forfeited</p>
<p>Stockpiling</p>	<p>See section 5 [below]</p>
<p>Trade</p>	<p>Title: <i>Firearms and Ammunition Act</i> 1968 – Amended 1989/2000</p>

	<p>Description: <i>Section 11(1)</i> : unlicensed firearms dealing is punishable by a fine of one thousand dollars, two years imprisonment, or both. <i>Section 20</i> : any person who contravenes import and export prohibition provisions of Sections 15(1), 17(1) or 18 shall be liable to a fine of five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for one year, or both.</p>	
	<p>Title: <i>Penal Code: An Act to Establish a Code of Criminal Law</i></p>	<p>1963</p>
<p>Short Title: <i>Penal Code</i></p>		
	<p>Description: <i>Section 90</i> : any persons who assemble for the purpose of evading any law in force relating to customs or excise shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and each person shall be liable to imprisonment for twelve months</p>	
	<p>Title: <i>An Act to Provide for the Imposition, Collection and Management of Customs and Excise Duties, the Licensing and Control of Warehouses and of Premises for the Manufacture of Certain Goods, the Regulation and Control and Prohibition of Imports and Exports and for Matters Incidental Thereto and Connected Therewith</i></p>	<p>1960</p>
<p>Short Title: <i>Customs and Excise Act</i></p>		
	<p>Description: <i>Section 134</i> : any person who exports or enters, or attempts to export or enter, any restricted goods shall be fined one hundred dollars, and such goods shall be forfeited. <i>Section 140/Section 213</i> : any attempt to export any good prohibited to be exported, or any goods the exportation of which is restricted, contrary to such restriction, shall incur a penalty of two hundred dollars, or treble the duty paid value of such goods, and all such goods shall be forfeited. <i>Section 193</i> : every person on board any aircraft or ship found to be conveying goods imported or intended for exportation contrary to the customs laws shall incur a penalty of two hundred dollars, and all such goods shall be forfeited. <i>Section 199</i> : any persons who assemble for the purpose of evading any provisions of the customs laws shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and each person shall be liable to imprisonment for twelve months.</p>	

ii) Have those groups and individuals engaged in the illegal manufacture, trade, stockpiling, transfer, possession, as well as financing for acquisition, of illicit SALW been identified, where applicable? What action has been taken under appropriate national law against such groups and individuals? (II.6)

Nearly three years after the signing of the Townsville Peace Agreement, the post-conflict environment in the Solomon Islands continues to be marked by uncertainty. Ongoing efforts at reconciliation and rehabilitation of former combatants, strengthening of

fragile government institutions and a contracting economy, and the reestablishment of the rule of law are jeopardized by the presence of SALW.

The Royal Solomon Islands Police (RSIP) is currently involved in operations aimed at capturing a former combatant who is known to possess a significant number of illicit weapons. The identity of other individuals in possession of illegal arms is also known, though RSIP capacity to secure the surrender of their weapons is limited. In the current context, disarmament and demobilization continue to pose a significant challenge. Legal prosecution related to the recent conflict remains subordinate to the requirements of national reconciliation.

iii) What national measures have been taken, including legal or administrative means, against activity that violates a United Nations Security Council arms embargo in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations? (II.15)

As the Solomon Islands neither exports arms, nor is used by illicit brokers to facilitate illicit transactions (specifically those involving embargoed destinations), no national legislative or administrative measures have been implemented in this area.

5. Stockpile management and security

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The Solomon Islands Government maintains no armed forces. The Royal Solomon Islands Police (RSIP) STAR Division, a tactical response unit, is responsible for the security and management of the Police Armory. For the purpose of this section, the term “authorized bodies” applies to the RSIP.

i) What national standards and procedures exist for the management and security of SALW stocks held by armed forces, police or other authorized bodies? (II.17)

Items held by the RSIP have whatever marks – manufacturer’s marks, other marks made by the exporting country, etc. – are contained on the item at the time of import into the Solomon Islands. They are allocated a control number. Keys for the armory are controlled according to standard practice, and the armory is constructed and locked in accordance with recognized standards.

Regulations require that weapons stores be checked and the contents counted at specified intervals as detailed below. Weapons issued are to be signed for, and controls exist as to who can draw them under what circumstances. RSIP policy dictates disciplinary action for individuals found in breach of any instructions on the security of weapons.

Police maintain records of SALW possessed, their issue and return to storage. Weapons may only be issued with the approval of a responsible officer in charge, in specific authorized circumstances. RSIP officers do not routinely carry firearms.

Since the time of the 2000 coup, which saw RSIP armories emptied by Malaita Eagle Force (MEF) militia members, access to arms held in the central armory has been a subject of concern. An International Peace Monitoring Team (IPMT) audit of the central police armory in 2001 found that there were no proper accounting measures in

evidence for the storage of ammunition and explosives, and that “little knowledge existed...on weapons accounting and servicing procedures.”³ However, the offer of training and technical assistance by Australia and New Zealand at an August 2001 meeting of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) led to the establishment of the Australia (AusAID)-funded Law and Justice Program. Their continuing collaboration with the RSIP has led to significant progress in the areas of small arms accounting procedures, physical security, and disposal of both weapons and munitions. The *RSIP Firearms Policy* proposal of 30 October, 2002, detailed in section 4(ii) below, outlines improved procedures for the management of police firearms.

ii) How often are stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies reviewed? (II.18)

The *RSIP Firearms Policy* proposal dictates that weapons registers are to be maintained by senior Armory staff and checked according to the following schedule:

- *Daily*: Armory staff is to ensure a daily count of firearms in the Armory, recorded in the daily diary as firearm type and quantity. Discrepancies are to be reported to the Superintendent and Inspector responsible for the management of the Armory.
- *Weekly*: Weekly audits consist of a spot check performed by the Superintendent and Inspector. Discrepancies are to be reported to the Deputy Police Commissioner (Operations). Results are recorded in the daily diary.
- *Quarterly*: Firearms serial numbers are to be checked against appropriate weapons registers by the Director of STAR Division. Discrepancies are to be followed up and rectified. Results are kept in the daily diary.
- *Biannually*: Exhibit weapons and privately-owned, seized or surrendered weapons held by the police are checked every six months. In the case of weapons held during court proceedings, the biannual audit determines whether court action is proceeding. If cases have been decided, court orders are sought to enable the return or disposal of weapons, as appropriate.

iii) How are those stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies that are surplus to requirements identified? (II.18)

RSIP Firearms Policy identification procedures stipulate the numbering of all firearms on the inside rear of the butt-stock (right-handed use), with yellow numbers measuring 8 cm on a black background. All numbers are to be recorded against serial numbers in the Police Weapons Register.

6. Collection and disposal

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

A discussion of the ongoing disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) programme in Solomon Islands is contained in section **10**.

i) Please give details of any national programmes that have been established and implemented for the responsible disposal of surplus stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies. (II.18)

n/a

³ Philip Alpers and Conor Twyford, *Small Arms in the Pacific*. (Geneva: Small Arms Survey) March 2003, at 13.

ii) *Is destruction the means used to dispose of such stocks? (II.18)*

n/a

iii) *What national measures exist to safeguard such stocks prior to their disposal? (II.18)*

n/a

iv) *Subject to the exceptions set out in paragraph II.16 of the UN Programme of Action, are all confiscated, seized or collected SALW destroyed? (II.16)*

n/a

v) *What methods has your country used to destroy surplus stocks of SALW designated for destruction? (If appropriate, please make reference to the report of the UN Secretary-General (S/2000/1092) of 15 November 2000.) (II.19)*

n/a

vi) *Please give details of any information on SALW confiscated or destroyed within your jurisdiction that is submitted to relevant regional and international organizations. (II.23)*

n/a

7. Export controls

i) *Please describe the system of export and import licensing or authorization, as well as measures on international transit, used by your country for the transfer of all SALW. (II.11)*

No exportation or importation of SALW is currently sanctioned by the Solomon Islands Government.

ii) *Please describe the national laws, regulations and administrative procedures used by your country to ensure effective control over the export and transit of SALW. How are these measures implemented? (II.12)*

Refer to section 3 above

iii) *Does your country use authenticated end-user certificates for this purpose? (II.12)*

n/a

iv) *Does your country notify the original exporting State when re-exporting or retransferring previously imported SALW? (II.13)*

n/a

8. Brokering

i) *What national legislation or administrative procedures exist to regulate the activities of those who engage in SALW brokering within national jurisdiction and control? (e.g. registration of brokers, licensing or authorization of brokering transactions and appropriate penalties) (II.14)*

As no SALW brokers currently operate in Solomon Islands, no national legislative or administrative procedures are currently in place to regulate SALW brokering.

9. Marking, record keeping and tracing

i) Does your country require licensed manufacturers of SALW to apply an appropriate and reliable marking on each weapon as an integral part of the production process? (II.7)

Solomon Islands does not manufacture SALW, however, *Firearms and Ammunition Act, Section 9(1)* requires the licensing officer to whom an application for a license is made to ensure that the firearm concerned is marked with the prescribed mark or number in such a way as to not damage the firearm.

ii) Is this marking unique? (II.7)

n/a

iii) Does this marking identify the country of manufacture? (II.7)

n/a

iv) How does this marking otherwise allow concerned authorities to identify and trace the relevant weapon? (II.7)

n/a

v) How long are records kept on the manufacture, holding and transfer of SALW under your jurisdiction? (II.9)

n/a

vi) What national measures exist for tracing SALW held and issued by the State? (II.10)

n/a

vii) Please give details of any steps taken by your country to cooperate in tracing illicit SALW, including the strengthening of mechanisms based on the exchange of relevant information. (III.11)

Refer to Regional Level initiatives, section **B. 3** below.

10. Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR)

i) Please describe any disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) programmes your country has developed and implemented, including the effective collection, control, storage and destruction of SALW. (II.21)

Following the signing of the Townsville Peace Agreement (TPA), which formally ended approximately two years of armed ethnic conflict between Guadalcanal and Malaitan ethnicities on the island of Guadalcanal, a number of bodies have been involved in the collection and disposal of SALW held by both civilians and police. Post-conflict collection efforts were promoted via a weapons amnesty clause in the TPA that granted Isatabu Freedom Movement (IFM – “Gualese”) and Malaita Eagle Force (MEF – Malaitan) militia members who surrendered their weapons immunity from prosecution for the theft and/or possession of those weapons. A general amnesty promised broader

immunity from criminal acts committed during the conflict, on the condition that *all* weapons and ammunition in possession of the two groups be surrendered.

The TPA established the indigenous Peace Monitoring Council (PMC) to monitor, report on, and enforce the terms of the Agreement. An International Peace Monitoring Team (IPMT) was created to assist the PMC by receiving and monitoring weapons surrenders and maintaining an arms inventory. To meet amnesty requirements, former militants were to turn their weapons over to the IPMT within 30 days of the execution of the TPA, and the weapons were to remain under IPMT control for a period of 24 months. However, the TPA also included a clause allowing for a review of the security situation throughout the Solomon Islands by a government-appointed committee before the expiration of the 24-month period. A determination that ethnic co-existence had improved sufficiently would permit surrendered weapons to be transferred to the Police Armory or disposed of in a manner chosen by the Solomon Islands Government.

COLLECTION AND DESTRUCTION OF SALW

At the time of an MEF-orchestrated coup on 5 June, 2000, over 1000 weapons were stolen from police armories in Honiara by the MEF. In the first nine months following the October TPA, the IPMT collected a total of 1,131 weapons – nearly three-quarters of which were homemade – which were then stored in eight sealed and padlocked storage containers. A cross-referencing of pre- and post-coup armory inventories conducted by the IPMT in July 2001 determined that 496 high-powered police firearms remained in circulation.⁴ Two extensions to the weapons amnesty failed to recover additional arms. Further collection efforts were complicated by compensation payments given to former militants by the Solomon Islands Government, which heightened expectations of financial gain in exchange for the surrender of arms. Compensation claims – and the threats that accompanied them – continued in spite of a 2002 Law and Order Action Plan that announced “no more buy-backs” of weapons.⁵ Concern that the amnesty legislation of 2000 stipulated by the TPA was flawed, combined with confusion over the expiration of the amnesty deadline, discouraged militants from turning over their weapons.

The most recent amnesty period expired on May 31, 2002. Two weeks after the deadline, IPMT containers held 2,043 weapons. New audits revised the July 2001 estimates of missing weapons upward by 125, to 621. Therefore, the latest surrenders, 77 guns given to police and another 45 turned over by police in early June 2002, left 499 high-powered weapons unaccounted for, though that number could be higher.⁶ The IPMT dumped hundreds of homemade guns into the sea on June 17, 2002, and all weapons held are scheduled for destruction. At the time of this report, the number of additional weapons collected and destroyed by more recent RSIP efforts is unknown.

DISARMAMENT AND DEMOBILIZATION

Since its inception in October 2002, the National Peace Council (NPC) has continued the work of the Peace Monitoring Council, which was disbanded at that time with the expiration of the Townsville Peace Agreement (TPA). Created by the Solomon Islands Government, the former IFM and MEF militias, and the provincial governments of

⁴ *Ibid*, at 94.

⁵ *Ibid*, at 95.

⁶ *Ibid*, at 97.

Guadalcanal and Malaita, the NPC and its mandate reflect provisions in the TPA advocating reconciliation, unity, confidence-building, and the return of law and order in Solomon Islands society. To that end, the organization's Weapons Free Village Campaign encourages communities in Guadalcanal and Malaita to support and achieve weapons-free status with the help of NPC monitors. To date, more than 720 villages – more than half the goal of approximately 1,200 villages by February 2005 – have been declared weapons free in public ceremonies during which chiefs and village leaders sign a weapons free declaration. Part of the campaign includes the collection and destruction of weapons, a task for which the NPC has government sanction. At the time of this report, an unknown number of SALW have been collected by the National Peace Council since its founding.

Through its Solomon Islands sub-office, the United Nations Development Programme has supported the Solomon Islands Government since July 2002 in the Demobilization of Special Constables Project. Funded by AusAID and UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, the project addresses some internal distortions within the Royal Solomon Islands Police that resulted from the ethnic conflict. Following the cessation of hostilities, the Special Constables (SCs), known elsewhere as Police Reserves, multiplied in the absence of formal controls from approximately 400 to more than 2,000, as former combatants joined their ranks. Only one hundred from each militia – IFM and MEF – were originally slated for SC status following the peace agreement. The resulting surge in numbers has meant that many SCs lack the necessary training and skills to carry out their responsibilities. Many maintain strong ties to former militia leaders. Their demands for payment for the past two years of their "employment" – sometimes by threat of force – have drained public finances and heightened insecurity in the country.

Having supported RSIP efforts to identify and register SCs, the project now assists in the demobilization of those that do not meet eligibility requirements. For its part, the RSIP has started to recruit from the ranks of the SCs and is terminating those with criminal records and those not showing up for work. According to the RSIP, the required number of SCs based on force needs is 850.

The demobilization project's steering committee is comprised of the Royal Solomon Islands Police, the Ministry of Police, National Security and Justice, the Ministry of National Reconciliation and Peace, and UNDP.

ii) Please describe how your country has addressed the special needs of children affected by armed conflict, in particular the reunification with their family, their reintegration into civil society, and their appropriate rehabilitation. (II.22)

n/a

iii) Please describe any DDR programmes or activities that your country has supported. (II.30, 34)

n/a

11. Awareness-raising

i) Please describe any public awareness and confidence-building programmes on the problems and consequences of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country

has developed and implemented (including the public destruction of surplus weapons and the voluntary surrender of SALW). (II.20)

The work of the National Peace Council, especially its Weapons Free Village Campaign, serves an important public awareness function on the problems of SALW in Solomon Islands communities. Weapons Free Village ceremonies get considerable coverage in the national newspaper and are broadcast live by the Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation. An upcoming Concert for National Unity, organized by the NPC, will also contribute to confidence-building and awareness of SALW issues in Solomon Island communities.

Past public events regarding SALW include weapons surrender ceremonies organized by the Royal Solomon Islands Police. Two major ceremonies, May 24th and 31st, 2002, coincided with the expiration of the most recent weapons amnesty. Public exposure for the events was maximized by a parade. An inventory was made of surrendered weapons, which were prominently displayed during the ceremonies and in newspaper articles.

Collected and surrendered weapons have been destroyed or disposed of at sea. Two methods of destruction are employed: the International Peace Monitoring Team and Peace Monitoring Council (now NPC) have burned or thrown weapons into the sea. Police have cut weapons with oxyacetylene torch.

ii) Please describe any education and public awareness programmes on the problems of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has encouraged. (II.41)

n/a

B. Regional level

1. Legally binding instruments

i) Has your country been involved in negotiations for the conclusion of legally binding instruments aimed at preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects? (II.25)

No negotiations regarding SALW instruments are in progress at the present time.

ii) Where such instruments exist, please describe the steps your country has taken to ratify and fully implement them. (II.25)

n/a

2. Moratoria and action programmes

i) Please give details of any support your country has given moratoria or similar initiatives on the transfer and manufacture of SALW, and/or regional action programmes to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects (including cooperation with States concerned in the implementation of these initiatives). (II.26)

n/a

3. Regional Cooperation

i) Please describe any involvement your country has had in the establishment of subregional or regional mechanisms with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALW across borders (in particular trans-border customs cooperation and networks for information-sharing among law enforcement, border and customs control agencies). (II.27)

REGIONAL MECHANISMS

Since 1996, the 16 member states of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) have worked to develop a common regional approach to weapons control. Regular regional gatherings, including those of the Forum Regional Security Committee (FRSC) – a PIF subcommittee of police, customs, and immigration organizations – the South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference (SPCPC), the Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO), and the Pacific Islands Law Officers Meeting (PILOM), have been used to examine current laws and regulations, coordinate regional initiatives, disseminate information, and determine future requirements. Their deliberations produced a regional document in October 1998 known as the *Honiara Initiative: Agreement in Principle on Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunitions, Explosives, and Other Related Materials*, which outlined a common regional approach to weapons control, including:

- legislative or other measures to criminalize the illicit manufacturing, trafficking, sale, and possession of arms and ammunition;
- measures necessary to establish jurisdiction over their sale, possession, and use;
- processes for the marking and tracing of firearms;
- procedures to confiscate or forfeit illegally manufactured or trafficked arms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials;
- strengthening and harmonization of import, export, and trans-shipment controls; including stronger controls at entry and exit points and improved inter-country notification systems;
- improvements in licensing systems and record-keeping; and
- enhanced exchange of information on various aspects of weapon control (*The Honiara Initiative*, SPCPC, October 1998)

Building upon *The Honiara Initiative*, the document *Towards a Common Approach to Weapons Control*, commonly known as the *Nadi Framework*, was produced by an SPCPC working group and the OCO in March 2000. It promotes regional cooperation and the eventual harmonization of domestic arms legislation. In addition to reaffirming the content of the *Honiara Initiative*, it is based upon an understanding that:

- the possession and use of firearms, ammunition, other related materials, and prohibited weapons is a privilege that is conditional on the overriding need to ensure public safety; and
- public safety will be enhanced by imposing strict controls on the import, possession, and use of firearms, ammunition, other related materials, and prohibited weapons (SPCPC & OCO, Sec.1.1, 2000).

See the following link for full text of the *Nadi Framework*:

http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/source_documents/Regional%20fora/Pacific%20Islands/Nadi%20framework.pdf

Other regional activities on small arms have contributed to further consultation and cooperation. As a result of a regional small arms workshop hosted by Australia in May 2001, the Governments of Australia, Japan, and New Zealand agreed to assist Pacific Island countries in developing strategies to address regional small arms problems. In March of the same year, New Zealand hosted, with the UN, an Asia Pacific Regional Disarmament Conference, which included a strong focus on small arms. The meeting emphasized the importance of the *Nadi Framework* as a basis for regional initiatives and provided another avenue for regional exchange and cooperation. May 16-17, 2003, Japan pledged its support for Forum members' SALW collection efforts at the *Pacific Leaders Summit Between Japan and Members of the Pacific Islands Forum* in Okinawa. Their commitment to collaboration is encapsulated in "The Okinawa Initiative: Regional Development Strategy for a More Prosperous and Safer Pacific."

The Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO), of which Solomon Islands is a member, performs an important coordination role in the Pacific. The OCO engages in a range of activities to strengthen links between its 23 member countries, including the Customs Regional Intelligence Network (CRIN), which provides an overview of SALW trafficking patterns in the region through a quarterly bulletin.⁷

Solomon Islands also has access to the Customs Asia Pacific Enforcement Reporting System (CAPERS). CAPERS is an international information and reporting system developed by the United States Customs Service which is used in a number of OCO member countries throughout the Pacific region. The purpose of CAPERS is to encourage greater co-operation and communication between participating members through a coordinated approach to Customs enforcement matters, providing a free exchange of information and assistance in the investigation of Customs violations as well as other law enforcement offences.

It should be noted that the limited capacity of both the Solomon Islands Government and national law and order institutions has prevented the opportunities available through OCO and CAPERS from being operationalized.

BORDER CONTROL

Limited financial resources and understaffing also limit the extent and effectiveness of border control efforts in the Solomon Islands. As a result, the Solomon Islands Government could benefit greatly from regional collaborative initiatives.

A two-week course on border control training was held at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat in Suva, Fiji from May 19-30, 2003. Acting PIF Secretary-General Mr. Iosefa Maiava introduced the session by noting the importance of better controls at ports of entry "in the wake of international terrorism, people smuggling and the trade of illegal drugs and weapons."⁸ The training course, supported by the Government of France in conjunction with the Australian Law Enforcement Cooperation program of the Australian Federal Police, is intended to act as a deterrent by making border controls tougher on criminals.

⁷ *Ibid*, at 23.

⁸ From Pacific Islands Forum website <http://www.forumsec.org.fj/Home.htm>

ii) Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to encourage regional and subregional action on illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects in order to, as appropriate, introduce, adhere, implement or strengthen relevant laws, regulations and administrative procedures. (II.28)

The Expert Working Group (EWG) to Coordinate the Development of a Regional Framework held its second meeting May 5-6, 2003 at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. The EWG will report to the Forum Regional Security Committee on its progress with the Framework – including model legislation to facilitate implementation of the measures outlined in both the *Honiara Initiative* and the *Nadi Framework* – and also consult with members on the draft text. A final version of the Model Legislative Provisions will be completed by June 30 for submission to the August Pacific Islands Forum meeting in Auckland, New Zealand. In-country drafting assistance to implement the legislative provisions will be available from the Forum to member countries upon their request.

C. Global level

1. International instruments against terrorism and crime

i) What existing international legal instruments against terrorism and transnational organized crime has your country ratified or acceded to? (II.38)

- *Convention on Offenses and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft*
 - Adopted: Tokyo, September 14, 1963
 - Entered into force: December 4, 1969
 - Instrument of succession deposited by Solomon Islands Government with the International Civil Aviation Organization March 23, 1982 with effect from July 7, 1978 (date of formal independence)

- *Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Civil Aviation*
 - Adopted: Montreal, September 23, 1971
 - Entered into force: January 26, 1973
 - Instrument of succession deposited by Solomon Islands Government with the Government of the United Kingdom April 13, 1982

The Solomon Islands Government, in conjunction with the members of the Pacific Islands Forum, is reviewing regional implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1373. The Forum's 2003 Nasonini Declaration on Regional Security underlined members' commitment to global efforts to combat terrorism and implement international anti-terrorism measures such as UNSCR 1373 and the Financial Action Task Force Special Recommendations. Solomon Islands awaits review of the Forum Regional Security Committee regarding regional implementation of these measures.

The Department of Foreign Affairs confirms that the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 15 December 1997, and the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 9

December 1999, are pending ratification by September 2003. A Trade Corridor Agreement with Bougainville and the renegotiation of a bilateral security plan to replace the 1997 Solomon Islands/Papua New Guinea Basic Border Agreement, which expired 17 July, 2002 are also pending.

2. International cooperation and assistance

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Severely limited institutional capacity and the precarious nature of the current situation in Solomon Islands underlines the importance of outside assistance in the following areas.

i) Please give details of any assistance, including technical and financial assistance, your country has provided for purposes of supporting the implementation of the measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects as contained in the UN Programme of Action. (III.3, 6, 10, 14)

n/a

ii) Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to enhance mutual legal assistance and other forms of cooperation in order to assist investigations and prosecutions in relation to the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (III.13)

n/a

iii) Please give details of any assistance your country has provided to combat the illicit trade in SALW linked to drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism. (III.15)

n/a

iv) Please give details of your country's cooperation with Interpol for the purpose of identifying those groups and individuals engaged in the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (II.37)

n/a

v) Please give details of your country's use and support of Interpol's International Weapons and Explosives Tracking System database (including providing relevant information on the illicit trade in SALW). (III.9)

n/a

vi) Please give details of your country's cooperation with the UN system to ensure the effective implementation of arms embargoes decided by the UN Security Council in accordance with the UN Charter. (II.32)

As the Solomon Islands neither exports arms, nor is used by illicit brokers to facilitate illicit transactions (specifically those involving embargoed destinations), no cooperative measures have been undertaken in this area.

vii) Please describe any steps your country has taken in cooperation with other states, or regional or international organizations, to develop common understandings of the basic issues and the scope of the problems related to illicit brokering in SALW. (II.39)

n/a

3. Cooperation with civil society and NGOs

i) Please give details of cooperation with civil society and non-governmental organizations in activities related to the prevention, combat and eradication of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects, at the national, regional and global levels. (II.20, 40, 41; III.2, 18)

Created by the Solomon Islands Government via a provision in the Townsville Peace Agreement, the Peace Monitoring Council was an indigenous, civilian-led organization. Their work, and continuing efforts of their successor organization, the independent National Peace Council, is a high-profile example of government cooperation with civil society.

Government, police, and International Peace Monitoring Team collaboration with the indigenous Anglican Melanesian Brothers and Sisters was critical to the success of post-conflict weapons collection efforts. As neither the PMC nor IPMT had any enforcement authority, the PMC's neutrality and close ties with affected communities were essential to securing arms surrenders and the success of the peace agreement in general. Local NPC peace monitors continue to perform the role of the PMC, developing close relationships with former combatants and an understanding of the impact of SALW on village-level dynamics.

4. Information exchange

i) Please describe any steps taken by your country to exchange information on national marking systems on SALW. (III.12)

Information in this area was unavailable at the time of submission of the report.

ii) Please give details of any information on, inter alia, SALW confiscated or destroyed within national jurisdiction, or other relevant information such as illicit trade routes and techniques of acquisition, that your country has submitted to relevant regional and international organizations. (II.23)

n/a

5. Training, capacity-building, research

i) Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to enhance cooperation and exchange of experience and training among competent officials, including customs, police, intelligence and arms control officials, at the national, regional and global levels in order to combat the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (III.7)

General capacity-building initiatives are ongoing through the continuing collaboration of the AusAID Law and Justice Sector Institutional Strengthening Program and the Royal Solomon Islands Police.

ii) Please describe any regional and international programmes for specialist training on small arms stockpile management and security that your country has developed or supported. (III.8)

n/a

iii) Please give details of any action-oriented research aimed at facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of the problems associated with the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has developed or supported. (III.18)

n/a

ANNEX A: TABLE OF WEAPONS SURRENDERED NOVEMBER 2000 – JULY 2001

Weapon Type	Number
Homemade	831
Commercial	62
Military	141
Other	97
Total Weapons	1,131

Source: Solomon Islands IPMT, July 2001

ANNEX B: ORGANIGRAM OF RESPONSIBLE PERSONS IN SALW CONTROL

Ministry & Address	Minister	Permanent Secretary	Assistant Secretary, UN Division	Contact No. (677)
Ministry of Finance, National Reform & Planning •Department of Finance & Treasury, P.O. Box G26	Hon. Snyder Rini (DPM)	Mr. Sharack Fanega		28619 / 24102
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commerce & Tourism •Department of Foreign Affairs, P.O. Box G10 •Dept. of Commerce, Industries & Employment, P.O. Box G26	Hon. Laurie Chan Hon. Trevour Olavae	Mr. Warren Paia Mr. Allan Arafoa	Mr. Joseph Ma'ahanua	28612 / 20351 28614/ 22856/ 28851
Ministry of Police, National Security & Justice • Department of Police & National Security, P.O. Box G1723 • Department of Justice & Legal Affairs, P.O. Box 404	Hon. Augustine Taneko Hon. Michael Maina	Mr. Frank Firimolea (Vacant)		28607 / 26159
Ministry of Provincial Gov't, National Reconciliation & Peace •Department National Reconciliation & Peace	Hon. Nathaniel Waena	Mr. Caspar Fa'asala		28606 / 21072 28616 / 23087
Department of Police & National Security, Rove HQ	Police Commissioner	William Morrell		25079
	Dpty Police Commissioner	John Homelo		25266
	Dpty Police Commissioner Operations	Wilfred Akao		27140