

**IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRACING INSTRUMENT AND
PROGRAMME OF ACTION
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Country:	New Zealand

A: Implementation of International Tracing Instrument

1. New Zealand national marking practices

There is a small domestic manufacturing base for small arms and light weapons in New Zealand, but not to large commercial quantities. Manufacturers tend to be in the 'custom gun' area. This includes up to 50 calibre. Guns produced in New Zealand are marked, and there is currently an Arms Amendment Bill (No. 3) before Parliament that will make it an offence for firearms manufacturers to "fail to place on a firearm or part of a firearm manufactured... an identifying marking".

Pistols, military-style semi-automatic (MSSAs) firearms and restricted weapons (prescribed by government) must be stamped with an identifying mark when transferred from one civilian to another if the firearm in question does not already feature such a mark.

There is no standard way in which firearms are marked in New Zealand. Generally, such weapons are marked with make, model, calibre and serial number. Marks are located in various places, and various parts can be marked differently. New Zealand Police have considered whether further approved standards for manufacturing and marking firearms could be implemented.

2. Measures to mark all small arms and light weapons (SALW) in the possession of **government armed security forces for their own use**

Weapons held by the New Zealand Police and the New Zealand Defence Force are already marked in a way that enables their identification and tracing. Police use weapons produced commercially, which already bear markings. See also B(6) below.

The New Zealand Defence Force track/trace and serial manage all SALW via a combination of a computerised Enterprise Resource Planning System (SAP), computerised logistic systems and manual paper systems. This advanced process includes some SALW sub-components and all ammunition.

3. Whether manufacturers of SALW in New Zealand have developed measures against the **removal or alterations of markings**.

There are provisions in New Zealand law that ensures that all firearms manufactured in New Zealand for sale must have identification markings that are recorded. In the case of pistols, military-style semi-automatics (MSSAs) and restricted weapons, markings must be retained and recorded on transfer.

The Arms Amendment Bill (No. 3) currently before New Zealand Parliament includes a specific offence of altering, falsifying, obliterating or removing an identifying marking on a firearm (except for some lawful purpose).

4. Whether there are measures in place to ensure that **accurate and comprehensive records** are established for all marked SALW within New Zealand

New Zealand maintains records of lawfully possessed pistols, military-style semi-automatics (MSSAs) and restricted weapons through both an import permitting and change of possession permitting regime. The record of pistols, restricted weapons and MSSAs is maintained indefinitely. New Zealand does not maintain a register of all firearms (eg. sporting firearms). However, as the vast majority of such firearms are imported into New Zealand, details of such weapons are in practice captured as part of the import process managed by Police.

5. Existing or new **regulations and administrative procedures** that have been put in place in order to ensure the effective implementation of the International Tracing Instrument

New Zealand's arms control regime generally complies with the requirements of the International Tracing Instrument. The passage of relevant regulations under the Arms Amendment Bill (No 3), which is not yet in place but are currently being considered, would strengthen compliance.

6. The **challenges and assistance needs** that States may face in their efforts to implement the International Tracing Instrument

See response to A(5) above.

B: Implementation of Programme of Action

1. What **laws, regulations and administrative procedures** has your Government put in place in order to exercise effective control over the production of SALW within their areas of jurisdiction and over the export, import, transit or retransfer of such weapons, in order to prevent illegal manufacture of and illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons, or their diversion to unauthorized recipients? (PoA – Section II, para 2)

Except for a limited amount of ammunition, one small-scale manufacturer of firearms and a small number of ad hoc firearms manufacturers (manufacturing firearms on an occasional basis only), New Zealand does not manufacture SALW on a large commercial scale. A person who manufactures firearms for sale must hold a dealers licence issued by the Police.

It is an offence, under the Arms Act 1983 to import firearms or various parts of firearms into New Zealand without a permit issued by the Police.

The export of conventional weapons, including SALW listed on the New Zealand Strategic Goods List published by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, is prohibited unless the consent of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade is first obtained. Exemptions exist whereby a permit is not required for the export of the following:

- Firearms and their parts manufactured before 1890
- Firearms that have been imported into New Zealand temporarily accompanied by a private individual on a holiday or attending a sporting competition
- Firearms being exported for repair and/or return to the manufacturer
- Firearms for use and subsequent return to New Zealand by the New Zealand Defence Force deployed overseas for exercise, international operations or emergency relief assignments.

All goods imported into or exported from New Zealand are required by the Customs and Excise Act 1996 to be cleared by the New Zealand Customs Service (Customs).

Customs requires import and export clearances in order to:

- Process and validate the information provided using its computer system

(known as Cusmod);

- Electronically screen the information provided by importers and exporters to identify risk shipments that may require further action;
- Enforce, using alerts on Cusmod, a wide range of import and export prohibitions and restrictions that Customs enforces on behalf of government departments that have policy responsibility for the controls. This includes controls on the import and export of firearms, explosives and goods subject to United Nations sanctions;
- Provide assurance to our trading partners about the security of New Zealand exports; and
- Provide import and export data to Statistics New Zealand to compile overseas trade data.

Cargo that is identified as of interest to Customs is held for the production of documents or physical inspection as required. Customs inspects such cargo with x-ray equipment.

All goods entering through the (sole) international mail centre are x-rayed.

All goods exported from New Zealand must be electronically cleared with Customs prior to export, or they will not be loaded on the ship or aircraft.

An electronic export entry or a cargo information report (ECI) must be lodged with and cleared by Customs before the goods are loaded for shipment from New Zealand. Export entries are a legal declaration under the Customs and Excise Act 1996. It is an offence under the Act to make an erroneous or false entry or ECI report.

Alerts on Customs' computer system means that Customs officials hold shipments of firearms and ammunition until the exporter produces the approval to export issued by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade under the Customs Export Prohibition Order 2008 (see above).

Importers of goods into New Zealand are required to lodge an electronic import entry (a declaration under the Customs and Excise Act 1996) with Customs. The entry covers the particulars of the goods, and where required, details of import permit requirements and the payment of any revenue charges.

Alerts on Customs' computer system means that Customs officials also hold shipments of firearms and various parts of firearms until the importer has produced a valid import permit issued by the New Zealand Police under the Arms Act 1983.

The Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act and Hazardous Substances Regulations 2001 contain provisions controlling the importation, manufacture and management of explosives (which include ammunition and grenades) and for the tracking of them through each stage of their life cycle to the stage of final use. At present, the provisions in the Hazardous Substances (Tracking) Regulations expressly exclude “safety” (small arms) ammunition.

The NZDF are exempt from complying with many parts of the HSNO Act under section 76a. NZDF have internal HSNO policy to control classes 1 to 9 substances. Under these exemptions NZDF import and control our own explosive products directly from the country of origin.

2. Has your Government established **national coordination agencies or bodies and institutional infrastructure** responsible for policy guidance, research and monitoring of efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW? (PoA – Section II, para 4)

Officials from the New Zealand Police, Ministry of Defence, New Zealand Defence Force, New Zealand Customs Service, Environmental Risk Management Authority, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, consult as required to coordinate New Zealand government action on Programme of Action issues.

3. Please indicate concrete examples of actions you have taken as **national point of contact** (PoA – Section II, para 5)

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Concrete examples of actions taken as national point of contact include:

- Outreach to exporters and customs brokers to raise awareness of export controls on firearms, parts and ammunition. For example attendance at the New Zealand Defence Industry Forum in October 2009 and coordination and hosting of interagency meetings.
- Participation at export control regime meetings to ensure New Zealand

remains atop of new developments and in line with best practice guidelines.

- Participation at international meetings on conventional and SALW weapons issues (including Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) meetings Towards an Arms Trade Treaty in 2009 and the Regional meeting for the Pacific on the Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons Sydney, 24-26 June 2009).

4. What specific measures has your Government taken to ensure **an appropriate and reliable marking on each SALW** as an integral part of the production process and to prevent the manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and possession of any unmarked or inadequately marked SALW? (PoA – Section II, para 7 and 8)

See Section A(1) above.

5. What specific measures has your Government taken to ensure comprehensive and **accurate records** on the manufacture, holding and transfer of SALW? (PoA – Section II, para 9)

As mentioned in A(1) above, New Zealand does not manufacture SALW to large commercial quantities. A person who manufactures firearms for sale must hold a dealers licence issued by the Police. Dealers are required to maintain records of the firearms they sell or manufacture. Please refer to paragraph B(1) above for details on provisions regulating ammunition in New Zealand.

The primary focus of firearms control in New Zealand is on the lawful possession and use of firearms through licensing individuals. No civilian is allowed to possess a firearm unless he or she is over the age of 16 years, is fit and proper, and has a firearms licence issued by the Police. A person wishing to hold a firearms licence is required to go through a vetting process that includes, but is not limited to, a criminal record and Police intelligence information check, interviews with the applicant, their spouse/partner/next of kin, an unrelated referee and any other inquiries Police consider required. Licence holders are required to secure firearms, and the physical inspection of security is a key part of the vetting process. Those wishing to possess pistols, restricted weapons or MSSAs undergo additional vetting processes, must hold a higher level of security, and may only use these particular firearms under prescribed circumstances.

In order to lawfully possess pistols, MSSA firearms and restricted weapons an endorsement on a firearms licence is required. Such endorsements set conditions on possessing these firearms and require the holder to demonstrate specific cause to own. Civilian ownership of pistols, MSSA firearms and

restricted weapons is regulated through a permitting system. These special categories of weapons amount to around 4% of New Zealand's estimated total stocks of firearms.

The HSNO Act and Hazardous Substances Regulations 2001 contain provisions controlling the importation, manufacture and management of explosives (which include ammunition and grenades) and for the tracking of them through each stage of their life cycle to the stage of final use. Explosives must be kept at certified (licensed) locations and under the control of certified (approved) persons. The New Zealand Environmental Risk Management Authority maintains a database of these certified locations and persons. At present, these provisions and the provisions in the Hazardous Substances (Tracking) Regulations to keep records of the holding and transfer of explosives expressly exclude "safety" (small arms) ammunition, although they do cover the explosive components used for the manufacture of small arms ammunition.

There is currently an Arms Amendment Bill (No 3) before Parliament that includes provision for the importation of ammunition not covered by regulations made under the HSNO Act to require a permit to import from New Zealand Police.

In order to gain consent from the Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade for the export of SALW from New Zealand, exporters must provide supporting documentation including: details of the goods, serial numbers, destination country, end-users name and street address, evidence that authorisation for import has been obtained from the recipient country, and for SALW listed on the military list, a completed end-user and non-transfer certificate certifying that the end-user will not re-export, re-sell, or otherwise dispose of the equipment to any person other than the nominated end-user without the express prior written authorisation of the Government of New Zealand. The validity of import authorisations and other documentation will be verified directly with foreign agencies if the transfer is considered to be of high risk.

6. What specific measures has your Government taken to ensure **accountability for all SALW held and issued by the State** and effective measures for tracing such weapons? (PoA – Section II, para 10)

All items held by the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) are serial numbered, usually by the manufacturer. If not numbered by the manufacturer, they are allocated an NZDF control number, and in some cases may have both. They are held on the NZDF Logistics Management System by individual serial numbers, and their location is recorded in terms of the unit to which they are issued.

At the unit level, registers are kept of every item; an individual is assigned responsibility for each weapon, and for the armoury in which it is kept. Keys are controlled according to standard practice, and the armouries or containers themselves are constructed and locked in accordance with recognised international standards.

Regulations require that all weapons stores be checked during routine security patrols, that they are opened and the contents counted at specified intervals, and that a full muster is taken periodically as detailed. All weapons issued from a weapons store are signed for, and strict controls exist as to who can draw them under what circumstances. Disciplinary action is taken against an individual found in breach of any instructions on security of weapons.

New Zealand Police maintains detailed records of SALW possessed, their issue and return to storage. SALW may only be issued with appropriate approval, in specific authorised circumstances. New Zealand Police do not routinely carry firearms.

7. Has your Government established an effective **national system of export and import licensing or authorization**, as well as measures on international transit for the transfer of all small arms and light weapons? (PoA – Section II, para 11)

Please refer to B(1) above for details of New Zealand's SALW import and export control regimes.

An export permit is required for any item listed on the New Zealand Strategic Goods List (NZSGL), including SALW, that is to transit or be transhipped through New Zealand.

With respect to importation restrictions outlined in B(1) above, they do not apply to the harbours and other territorial waters of New Zealand. However, there is currently an Arms Amendment Bill (No 3) before Parliament which would extend the definition of New Zealand in the Arms Act 1983 (where there are the importation restriction provisions on firearms) to include the harbours and other territorial waters of New Zealand.

Under existing law, goods that are:

- (a) trans-shipped through New Zealand, ie off-loaded in New Zealand - require Customs approval before they may be loaded on the exporting ship or aircraft;

(b) transited through New Zealand, ie remain on board the ship or aircraft – the Customs and Excise Act 1996 requires the owner of the ship or aircraft to provide Customs with an electronic inward report of all goods on the ship or aircraft.

8. Has your Government put in place or implemented adequate laws, regulations and administrative procedure to ensure **effective control over the export and transit of small arms and light weapons**, including the use of end-user certificates? (POA- Section II, para 12)

New Zealand controls on the export of SALW are implemented through the Customs Export Prohibition Order 2008, promulgated under the Customs and Excise Act 1996. That order requires the consent of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Secretary) for the export of items identified in the New Zealand Strategic Goods List (NZSGL), which is publicly available on www.mfat.govt.nz. The NZSGL is updated regularly to reflect changes in the various multilateral non-proliferation/export control regimes to which New Zealand belongs. The Munitions List of the NZSGL contains the list of SALW that are subject to export controls. This sub-list includes items listed on the Wassenaar Arrangement control list (ML1 – ML22), and additional items controlled by New Zealand including sporting firearms, parts and ammunition and commercial explosives (ML901-ML909).

Once an export application is received, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) consults with relevant government agencies and assesses the application in accordance with its standard export criteria eg. whether the export would contravene UN Security Council embargoes, undercut a denial from an export control partner, or contribute to conflicts. MFAT typically requires supporting documentation such as evidence of import authorisation and an end-user certificate, and also has the discretion to ask the exporter to supply a delivery verification certificate to help ensure that SALW are not diverted. Applications have been denied due to concerns about security and the risk of diversion.

9. Has your Government developed adequate national legislation or administrative procedures to regulate **brokering activities**? (PoA – Section II, para 14)

There are few arms brokers based in New Zealand and there are no specific controls on brokering although as brokers are considered to offer firearms for sale they are included within the regulations covering firearms dealers. No person is allowed to set up business selling, or manufacturing for sale, firearms,

airguns, pistols or restricted weapons without a licence issued by the Police. Those licences must be endorsed to allow possession of pistols, military-style semi-automatic (MSSA) firearms or restricted weapons if the business concerned deals in those items.

Examples of the controls on dealers' activities include:

- penalties for illicit dealing activities include: employees and agents of dealers must be firearms licence holders and those licences must also be endorsed if in the course of their duties they are to come into possession of pistols, MSSA firearms or restricted weapons;
 - dealers must keep records of all firearms coming into their possession and details of transfers to customers;
 - provision for Police audit of dealers' records; and
 - ensuring that firearms are securely stored.
- three months' imprisonment or a fine of up to NZ\$1,000 or both for selling a firearm to an unlicensed person or dealer;
 - a fine of up to NZ\$1,000 for supplying ammunition to someone who is not a holder of a firearms or dealers licence; and
 - three years' imprisonment or a fine of up to NZ\$4,000 for selling or supplying a pistol, MSSA firearm or restricted weapon to a person who doesn't hold a permit to import/procure that weapon.

Officials are currently investigating the possibility of creating stand alone export controls legislation. Such legislation would seek to include express controls on brokering activities.

10. Has your Government conducted **destruction** of surplus SALW as well as those confiscated, seized or collected? (PoA – Section II, para 16, 18 and 19)

The destruction of surrendered, seized and forfeit civilian firearms happens routinely in all parts of New Zealand.

Section 18 of the Firearms Manual (issued by the New Zealand Police) deals with the disposal of firearms by the Police. Broadly, under the Firearms Manual the Police are authorised to destroy firearms:

- pursuant to a court order;

- when authorised by the Area Commander;
- when firearms are delivered to the Police following surrender or revocation of a firearms licence; or
- where a firearm, airgun, pistol, restricted weapon, ammunition or explosive is seized or detained under the Arms Act by the Police (other than as a result of revocation or surrender of a firearms licence) provided that certain procedures, such as trying to first locate the owner, are followed.

NZ Police has destroyed its surplus stock of 750 rifles as part of a rifle replacement programme. 50 have been retained for the purposes of firearm safety training delivered by the Mountain Safety Council.

Apart from weapons destroyed as part of regional assistance programmes or international peacekeeping efforts (refer to paragraph B(14)), the NZDF policy is to hold a small number of obsolete weapons for museum or training purposes, and all other surplus/obsolete weapons are destroyed. There are stringent controls on the destruction process, including management of key spare parts such as firing mechanisms. As all NZDF weapons are imported, they are without exception subject to end user certification, compliance with which adds a further level of control to the disposal process.

11. Please indicate your Government's procedures and practices on **the management and security of its own stocks of weapons** (PoA – Section II, para 17 and 18)

Please refer to B(6) above.

SALW purchased by Police are held in secure storage facilities located at a central supplier who operates under a dealers licence and the provisions of the Arms Act 1983 and Arms Regulations 1992. SALW issued to tactical squads are held in separate secure storage within Police stations that operate on a 24-hour basis. General issue firearms are held in secure storage within Police stations under the supervision of the Officer in Charge. When on issue they are the responsibility of the member of the Police to whom they are issued. New Zealand Police do not routinely carry firearms.

12. Has your Government developed and implemented **public awareness and confidence-building programmes** on the problems and consequences of the illicit trade in SALW? (PoA - Section II, para 20)

New Zealand's firearms legislation features a "permanent amnesty provision" for pistols and restricted weapons. In practice, this also applies to MSSAs. Persons who wish to dispose of any pistol, restricted weapon or MSSA may do so by delivering it to a licensed firearms dealer or the Police. In the last two years the Police have invested approximately NZ\$200,000 into promoting the licensing, security and safe use of firearms. In 2008/2009 Police invested \$265,000 in the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council - the civilian organisation responsible for promoting the safe use of firearms in the community.

New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade conducts outreach on export controls on strategic goods, which include SALW, to the exporting community through publications, seminars and visits to individual businesses. The outreach efforts also serve to build greater awareness of the Ministry's export criteria, including as they relate to export of SALW.

The New Zealand Agency for International Development (NZAID), which manages the NZ Government's Official Development Assistance (ODA) Programme, has supported a number of initiatives relating to peace and conflict resolution. These are all relevant to efforts to combat, eradicate and prevent the illicit trade in SALW.

Core funding was provided by NZAID to the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police (PICP) Secretariat to promote effective policing and community safety in the Pacific, through enhanced Police regional cooperation, coordination, and law enforcement. The PICP Secretariat is currently undertaking a Police Armoury Project. The objective's of the project are to analyse and report on the safety and security of police armoury facilities in the Pacific; identify and engage with appropriate donor agencies regarding the upgrade or replacement of existing facilities; and to develop and deliver a briefing document to inform PICP members at the 2008 PICP Conference.

13. Please indicate, where appropriate, examples of **cooperation between your Government, civil society and non-governmental organizations** with a view to eradicating the illicit trade in SALW. (PoA – Section II, para 20)

The New Zealand Police continues to consult with the firearms-using community on the development of legislation, policy and practice aimed at enhancing the safe use and control of firearms. Representatives of firearms

owner groups were informally consulted during the development stages of the Arms Amendment Bill (No 3) currently before Parliament. New Zealand's point of contact is in regular contact with the SALW NGO community.

In February 2006 the New Zealand Police co-hosted, with the Mountain Safety Council and the Council of Licensed Firearms Owners, an international firearms safety seminar. The outcomes of this conference continue to inform the development of policy and practice in relation to SALW, including the 2008 – 2012 New Zealand Suicide Prevention Action Plan. The New Zealand Agency for International Development (NZAID) paid for representatives from the Pacific to attend. This helped to build on New Zealand's involvement at the UN Regional Seminar on SALW for the South Pacific in Nadi, 18 - 20 August 2004. A further Regional Seminar was held in Sydney on the Programme of Action on SALW on 25-26 June 2009. New Zealand funded attendance by Dr David Capie, an academic at the Victoria University of Wellington at this meeting.

The New Zealand Mountain Safety Council (www.mountainsafety.org.nz) has committed to assisting Pacific States develop civilian firearm safety programmes. During 2007 a team from the Mountain Safety Council assisted Niue with developing a firearms safety training and inspection programme.

New Zealand contributed funding to IANSA to enable them to establish a temporary office in New York during the Review Conference in 2006. The New Zealand delegation to the First Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action included a representative each from Oxfam, IANSA and the New Zealand Council of Licensed Firearms Owners Inc (COLFO).

14. Has your Government developed and implemented, where possible, **effective disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes**, including the effective collection, control, storage and destruction of SALW in post-conflict situation? (PoA – Section II, para 23)

New Zealand has not experienced large-scale conflict on its territory for over a century. However, New Zealand has contributed to post-conflict measures in Bougainville and Solomon Islands. Efforts have included post-conflict destruction of weapons, reintegration of ex-combatants and managing the risk of resumed conflict. A number of basic principles have been drawn up including the need for community development parallel to the disarmament process, the importance of integration of the disarmament process with post-conflict confidence building, including restoring public confidence in the police and military, and community “ownership” of the process.

At the request of Solomon Islands Government, in March 2006 New Zealand destroyed a shipment of weapons that it had been holding since the late 1990s

– originally destined for irregular deployment at the Bougainville/Solomon Islands border.

New Zealand continues to be involved in the Regional Assistance Mission in the Solomon Islands (RAMSI). The focus of RAMSI has shifted from immediate conflict resolution and security issues to one of longer-term social and economic stability. The presence and circulation of illicit firearms continues to be monitored in this context, as it is a contributing factor to ensuring lasting stability in the Solomon Islands.

New Zealand has been active in promoting the aims of the Programme of Action in the South Pacific. A major focus of the New Zealand Defence Force's (NZDF) Mutual Assistance Programme (MAP) at present is helping regional countries' defence and police forces improve the security, storage, maintenance and management of their weapons. Assistance has thus far been provided to Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Niue, Tokelau, Samoa, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Tuvalu and the Cook Islands. Often this assistance involves the construction of armouries, training on the safe handling of weapons and explosives, weapon maintenance and their disciplined control and use.

This assistance to South Pacific states can only proceed at the invitation of the states concerned. New Zealand is willing and able to offer further advice and assistance to address the small arms challenge. We are careful, however, to ensure that we only offer assistance when requested to do so by the states concerned.

In Afghanistan New Zealand is providing ongoing support through its ODA programmes. This has included support through the New Zealand Provincial Reconstruction Team (NZ PRT) for security sector reform. On civil/military relations and humanitarian assistance, New Zealand follows an approach that seeks to have PRT's focus on creating a secure environment for the provision of development assistance, and engaging in development assistance in sectors where they have the comparative advantage. This has included security sector reform, assistance to local government, disarmament and demobilisation processes.

15. Do you have a **regional mechanism** in promoting trans-border customs cooperation and networks for information sharing among law enforcement, border and customs control agencies in your region? (PoA – Section II, para 27)

The Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO) performs an important coordination role in the Pacific region. The OCO engages in a range of activities to strengthen links between its 23 member countries. The Organisation is a member of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) team looking at

domestic interagency and regional information sharing mechanisms. The OCO contributes to the annual Pacific Transnational Crime Assessment. The Organisation produces a six monthly analysis report that provides an overview of trafficking patterns in the region. OCO members submit reports of seizures, methods of transportation, and methods of concealment to the New Zealand Customs Service (NZCS) who produces and publishes the report on behalf of the OCO.

CENCOMM 2 is currently operating throughout the Pacific region. This internet based information and reporting system is used by a number of OCO member countries. CENCOMM 2 is supported by the World Customs Organisation.

The OCO Secretariat also makes a contribution under the Security pillar through its support of a number of existing mechanisms and historical relationships with the PIFS, Pacific Island Chiefs of Police (PICP), the Pacific Island Immigration Directors Conference (PIDC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC). Collaboration with these regional bodies has resulted in a number of quality outputs including regional surveys, training opportunities, generic tool kits and model law development, as well as contribution to policy advice that have had mutual benefits. The continued strengthening of the working relationships between these regional bodies will foster the development of new initiatives, skill sharing and greater resource utilisation between the Secretariats and their respective members. This collaboration has the added benefit of reduced levels of compliance for the PICT administrations as well as having already provided more opportunities for multi-skilling front-line and support staff.

The NZCS Pacific Liaison Officer continues to support in the strengthening and developing of relationships between the NZCS and Pacific island customs administrations and the regional organisations and in the strengthening of border control mechanisms in the Pacific.

Information sharing and cooperation with New Zealand's Pacific partners may take place when assessing an export application to the Pacific region. MFAT may request information on:

- 1 the attitude of the importing country to the import;
- 2 the current political/security situation in the importing country;
- 3 the degree to which the importing country can scrutinise and monitor the proposed imports;
- 4 the nature and character of the proposed end-use and user; and
- 5 other relevant information.

In practice, the exchange of information is achieved through New Zealand diplomatic posts in the importing countries.

16. Please indicate **specific problems** your Government has faced in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

None in the year to date. In February 2005 the New Zealand Government introduced legislation (the Arms Amendment Bill (No 3)) into Parliament to enable New Zealand to comply with the minimum legislative requirements of the Firearms Protocol to the Convention on Transnational Organised Crime, the incidental effect of which will be to enhance New Zealand's compliance with the Programme of Action. This legislation is still going through the parliamentary process.