

*Translated from Spanish*

**Report of the Government of Mexico concerning resolution 61/79 entitled “Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms”**

In response to the note of the Office for Disarmament Affairs ODA/09-2008/ICBM, of 6 February 2008, the Government of Mexico hereby submits its report on resolution 61/79 entitled “Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms”, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 6 December 2006.

Mexico attaches great importance to the promotion and adoption of confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms as a way of contributing to the maintenance of regional and international peace and security. In that connection, since 1992, Mexico has submitted to the United Nations and the Organization of American States every year the duly completed forms relating to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and military expenditures. The submission of these forms, which contain data on Mexico’s arms imports and exports and on the economic resources it has spent in the previous fiscal year, contributes to strengthening international and regional confidence-building measures.

In March 2008, as in every year since the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, Mexico submitted its report on the implementation of the Programme of Action. That report included information on the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (International Tracing Instrument).

Moreover, pursuant to article 7 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Convention), Mexico submits a report on the implementation of that Convention every year.

Mexico also submits national reports to the Secretary-General, in compliance with the various resolutions adopted by the First Committee of the General Assembly.

One of the responsibilities of the Ministry of Naval Affairs (SEMAR) is to uphold the rule of law in Mexican waters, either alone or in conjunction with the competent authorities, in combating illicit trafficking in arms through a variety of naval operations. In compliance with the above, strategies have been drawn up to introduce active and passive measures relating to physical protection, border protection and control of transfers of conventional arms.

With regard to participation in international meetings, Mexico, through its Ministry of National Defence, participated in the Conference of American Armies Commanders’ Conference, which was held in Brasilia from 5 to 8 November 2007 and addressed issues of common interest for the hemisphere’s armies, such as procedures for peacekeeping operations, training and teaching, science and

technology, education and training, logistics, and exercises relating to emergency assistance and peacekeeping operations. This contributed to strengthening the ties of friendship and cooperation among the participating armed forces.

Mexico also participated in the various meetings held in connection with the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (Ottawa Convention), and the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA).

Lastly, Mexico wishes to express its appreciation to the Secretary-General for establishing the first electronic database and calls on Member States to continue submitting information so that it may be continuously updated.

Mexico City, 6 May 2008

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