

# Prevention of Armed Conflict: Discussions in the Security Council (2001)

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Those interested in preventing war and armed conflict will find below:

1. Time line of discussion in the Security Council and links to relevant documents;
2. Summary of the June 7, 2001 Report on Conflict Prevention by Kofi Annan;
3. Summary of the debate in the Security Council on June 21, 2001 in response to the above report.

## Introduction

Over the past 18 months, the Security Council has been talking about how to prevent war, holding its 3rd open discussion on the subject on June 21, 2001. The latest session was an opportunity to respond to a report written by Kofi Annan called Prevention of Armed Conflict, 7 June 2001, S/2001/574.

In the Secretary General's report, one recommendation is made to NGOs. We should "convene an international conference of local, national and international NGOs on their role in conflict prevention and future interaction with the UN in this field."

## 1. Documents and Time line

**First Open Session:** 29 November 1999, the Security Council held its first open session to discuss the prevention of armed conflict, the press release contains an excellent summary of who said what.

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/1999/19991129.sc6759.doc.html>

**Action by the Council in response to First Open Session:** A

Presidential Statement was issued 30 November 1999, S/PRST/1999/34, <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/statements/1999/prst9934.htm>

**Second Open Session:** A second open session was held on July 20,

2000, here again is the press release link

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2000/20000720.sc6892.doc.html>

**Action by the Council in response to the Second Open Session:**

another Presidential Statement was issued S/PRST/2000 20 July 2000/25

<http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/statements/2000/prst25e.pdf>

which invited the Secretary General to make recommendations on appropriate early warning strategies.

**Action by Kofi Annan, responding to the invitation issued above:**

Secretary General's Report on Prevention of armed conflict 7 June 2001, S/2001/574 <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/reports/2001/574e.pdf>

**Third Open Session:** The Council held an open session to discuss the report on 21st June, 2001.

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2001/sc7081.doc.htm>

## **2. Summary of Secretary General Kofi Annan's Report on "Prevention of armed conflict"**

This 37 page report is worth reading. Access your own copy on the web at this link <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/reports/2001/574e.pdf>

The document is in five parts :

**Part 1.** Role of the UN - Recommendations

**Part 2.** Role and activities of United Nations departments, agencies and programmes in the prevention of armed conflict.

**Part 3.** Interaction between the UN and other international actors in the prevention of armed conflict

**Part 4.** Enhancing the capacity for the prevention of armed conflict **Part 5.** Overcoming obstacles to conflict prevention

10 principles outlined that should guide the future approach of the UN to conflict prevention

In the much talked about Brahimi Report on UN Peacekeeping, Kofi Annan was challenged to tell the Security Council less of what they wanted to

hear and more of what they needed to hear. He has started to test the limits with this report which is frank in its demands of Member States.

The opening line about the "pitiful lesson" to be learned by the last decade is an honest place to begin. There are some obvious and brutally pitiful lessons to be learned by the United Nations in this area of preventing war. After all, the United Nations is a peace organisation, set up to save us all from the scourge of war, and yet the governments of the world have not used it effectively. Rather they have build up their militaries, spending money on "military action that could be available for poverty reduction and equitable sustainable development." Kofi Annan takes this opportunity to repeat the message to governments that they should discourage competitive arms accumulation and create an enabling environment for arms limitation and reduction agreements as well as the reduction of military expenditures.

The Secretary General observes that war costs a great deal of money - quoting the Carnegie Commission on Preventing Deadly Conflict, that estimated at least USD \$ 200 billion was spent on on the seven major interventions in the 1990's, in Bosnia Herzegovina, Somalia, Rwanda, Haiti, the Persian Gulf, Cambodia and El Salvador (not including East Timor and Kosovo). A preventative approach would have cost the international community 130 billion dollars, saving 70 billion dollars.

The slogans of the report are 'changing the UN from a culture of reaction to a culture of prevention' and 'conflict prevent is at the heart of the mandate of the United Nations.'

## **Part 1. Role of the UN - Recommendations**

**a. Work Harder:** The General Assembly (all the world's governments acting together) should use its powers more actively re Articles 10, 11 and 14 of the Charter (find the charter at [www.un.org](http://www.un.org))

**b. Make the Security Council More Accountable:** The General Assembly (everybody) should enhance its interaction with the Security Council (15 members only) (probably to make it more accountable and less secret).

**c. Be More Creative:** The Security Council should "consider innovative mechanisms", establish a permanent discussion council ("ad hoc informal working group" in today's jargon) to face, on a continuing basis, the potential for early warning.

**d. Define the Root Causes of War:** ECOSOC - (54 countries that get together twice a year in Geneva and in New York), should define "the root causes of conflict and the role of development in promoting long-term conflict prevention."

**e. Go To Court, Not To War:** States should use the International Court of Justice to settle disagreements.

**f. Respect the International Court of Justice:** In other words, 'accept the general jurisdiction of the Court' because it's one of the six key organs of the UN.

**g. Defer to this court:** When making treaties, the domestic law of the land in each country, refer to the International Court of Justice as the dispute settling body over any disagreements about that treaty.

**h. Use this court more rather than going to war:** The General Assembly should ask the court for more opinions about preventing war (what are called Advisory Opinions).

**i. I Will Work Harder:** Kofi Annan pledges that he will enhance the traditional preventative role of the Secretary General in four ways: first, by increasing the use of UN fact finding and confidence building missions to volatile regions; second by developing regional preventative strategies with our regional partners and UN Agencies, third, by establishing an informal network of eminent persons for conflict prevention work and four by improving the capacity and resource base for preventative action in the Secretariat.

## **Part 2. Role and activities of United Nations departments, agencies and programmes in the prevention of armed conflict.**

This section of the report opens with an acknowledgement that root causes of conflict vary widely, and that appropriate preventive action needs to cover a broad spectrum of measures. After taking the opportunity to mention the need for arms limitation and reduction and the reduction of military spending, the Secretary General indicates that since assuming office he has launched a range of initiatives to foster a culture of conflict prevention and to more coherently bring the UN Agencies and Departments into focused collaborative action. He then goes on to list them.

**a. Administrative Committee on Coordination** - the authority for promoting coherence in the UN system, made up of 25 funds, programmes and specialised agencies, plus the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the World Bank and the IMF. In 1997 this body recognised the importance of reinforcing the UN system's capacity for early warning. The SG promises to engage in a focused dialogue on what practical measures the UN needs to take to promote greater coherence in its conflict prevention activities.

**b. Executive Committees** - as part of Kofi Annan's reform package, four executive committees were established on 1. peace and security, 2. economic and social affairs, 3. development operations and 4 humanitarian affairs, with human rights as a cross cutting theme throughout. The SG promises to promote their more proactive use for conflict prevention.

**c. Interdepartmental Framework for Coordination** - established in 1994 to strengthen planning and coordination among peacekeeping, humanitarian and political functions of the UN. It has been reoriented toward early warning and prevention since 1998. A Framework team composed of senior representatives of 14 departments, agencies, programmes and offices, including the World Bank meets monthly to exchange information and to assess the potential for armed conflict. GA resolution 51/242 is a relevant resolution to look at on this Committee.

**d. Country Level resident coordinators** - have helped the UN draw up common country assessments in 70 countries with another 40 in progress. The assessment analyses the national development situation and identified key issues as a basis for policy dialogue in the UN system and helps address national priorities and challenges with the government. The assessment leads directly to the UNDAF - the **UN Development Assistance Framework** - a coherent UN strategy for development assistance at the country level. A training for UN staff entitled "Early Warning and Preventive Measures: Building United Nations Capacity" is conducted at the UN staff college for many of those going into the field.

**e. The Department of Political Affairs (DPA)** follows political developments throughout the world and identifies potential conflicts. Part of the preventive work of this department is done through special representatives (64 out of 64 are male) and envoys of the Secretary General, as well as field based missions and offices, which assist governments in building their capacity to govern. An example is the UN

Electoral Assistance Division, which has provided help to more than 150 electoral processes. To assist in this role, a **Policy Planning Unit** was established in 1998. The **Conflict Prevention Team** is an internal mechanism of the Policy Planning Unit and provides an interdepartmental forum for the development of preventive options. As part of the Brahimi Report implementation, Kofi Annan has proposed a new unit to provide system-wide policy and analysis. The SG calls for more funds so that the DPA can more effectively coordinate and resource its preventive efforts.

**f. Peace Keeping Operations** - three times in the past decade Peacekeeping Operations have been sent before violence has broken out - UNPREDEP - the UN Preventive Deployment Force in Macedonia, MINURCA - the UN Mission in the Central African Republic and also others in Haiti. However, member states have been reluctant to expend political and financial capital BEFORE the outbreak of violence. Kofi Annan encourages member states and the Security Council to more often deploy forces before the outbreak of violence, and to strengthen the capacity of peacekeeping operations in civilian policing which has taken on a more important conflict prevention role in the post-cold war conflicts.

**g. Disarmament - A Group of Interested States** was established in 1998 to work with the Department of Disarmament Affairs in the field of practical disarmament measures, in particular to support peace-building efforts in post-conflict situations. UNDP has worked since 1998 to design and support weapons collection through the UNDP Trust Fund on Small Arms. The **CASA - Coordinating Action on Small Arms** mechanism was established in 1998 to harmonise all action on small arms within the UN System and includes all departments and agencies with an interest. "Weapons for development" projects are featured in this part of the report, for example in Gramsch Albania following a request from the Albanian government for assistance in retrieving weapons. **The World Bank's** role in providing technical assistance on the preparation of comprehensive disarmament, reintegrating combatants into society is noted. **The World Food Programme's** work in supporting demobilisation programmes is also noted.

Kofi Annan notes that the evolution of disarmament norms is a continuous process, but that small arms and missile have no international framework. Exchange of information and other forms of transparency in armaments

and on military matters can be an early warning mechanism, and can lead to restraints in weapons acquisition, and can help discourage excessive or destabilising accumulation.

**h. Human Rights** - General Assembly Resolution 48/141 requested the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (Mary Robinson's office) to play an active role in preventing human rights abuses. Over 50 technical cooperation projects have been implemented in response, to help governments, national institutions and NGOs enhance their human rights capacity. In paragraph 97, the SG talks about the International Criminal Court and the vital role it will play in deterring the most flagrant violations of human rights. He also hopes for concrete recommendations to emerge from the World Conference Against Racism including on early warning systems, confidence building measures and structural and institutional support mechanisms to prevent the deterioration of ethnic tensions into armed conflict.

**i. Development Assistance** - needs to focus on decreasing the key structural risk factors that fuel violent conflict, and should strengthen society's capacity for coping, managing and resolving tensions before they become violent. At the request of governments, the UNDP's portfolio for governance and rule of law activities prone to conflict is now more than half of UNDP programmes and activities - 1.2 billion. Several UNDP led projects on conflict prevention in Romania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, the Horn of Africa, and the OAU address the issue from a regional perspective. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs are collaborating with over 10 African conflict resolution institutions and practitioners to develop training materials in four areas. Kofi Annan calls on governments to provide more resources to strengthen the UN Development Group to respond more effectively to conflict prevention.

**j. Humanitarian action** - the SG calls on the Security Council to invite the Office of the UN Emergency Relief Coordinator to brief its members regularly on situations where there is a substantial risk of a humanitarian emergency. He also urges the Council to call for and support the implementation of preventive protection and assistance activities by UN agencies in situations where there is a risk of a humanitarian crisis. Specific aspects of food security, refugees and health are discussed.

**k. Media and public information** - the SG urges the General Assembly to provide additional resources to the UN to direct and mission based broadcasts to counter hate messages and promote media development in conflict-prone situations.

**I. Gender Equity** - Since the First World Conference on Women held in Mexico, there has been a recognition that women have an important role to play in the promotion of peace... An essential aspect of conflict prevention is the strengthening of the rule of law, and within that the protection of women's human rights achieved through a focus on gender equality in constitutional, legislative, judicial and electoral reform. Security Council Resolution 1325 recognised the impact of armed conflict on women and the need for effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection. In order to ensure collaboration and coordination, Kofi Annan established a **task force on women, peace and security** which is comprised of representatives from 15 United Nations entities, is developing an action plan on the implementation of the resolution.

**m. Drug Control and crime prevention** - the SG calls on states to ratify the Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime and its Protocols, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in persons, Especially Women and Children.

### **Part 3. Interaction between the UN and other international actors in the prevention of armed conflict**

In 1998 the Third high-level UN Regional Organisations meeting focused on the theme of "Cooperation for Conflict Prevention" and for the first time agreed on a framework for cooperation in conflict prevention based on 13 modalities.

In 2001, the Fourth high-level UN Regional Organisations meeting focused on "Cooperation for Peace Building" in both a pre and post conflict environment. A document was adopted, "Framework for Cooperation in Peacebuilding (S/2001/138, annex 1) in which principles were agreed upon for cooperating in this field.

The OAU has created a Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution. In 1999 the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) established a similar mechanism. The Organisation of American States has a Union for the Promotion of Democracy, while the European Union has the Policy and Planning and early Warning Unit, and is in the process of developing a European programme for conflict prevention.

The UN Office in Geneva, the Council of Europe, the EU and the OSCE have established a practice of holding annual meetings to exchange views

and coordinate efforts.

**NGOs:** The report identifies women's NGOs, academics and research institutes, religious organisations as having a role to play in offering nonviolent avenues for addressing the root causes of conflict at an early stage, and asks NGOs to convene an international conference to discuss the role of NGOs in conflict prevention and future interaction with the UN system.

**The Private Sector:** The SG seeks support for the Global Compact with Corporations, which is based on the assumption that "peace is good for business". In 2001, the Compact convened a series of dialogues on the role of businesses in zones of conflict in order to identify how businesses can strengthen human security.

#### **Part 4 Enhancing the capacity for the prevention of armed conflict**

The SG calls on member states to increase official overseas development, to enhance their own capacity for conflict prevention, to enhance the capacity for the UN system for conflict prevention, to support interagency coordinating mechanisms, to support resources for Security Council field missions, and to change funding practices so that conflict prevention work is regularly funded from the regular budget of the UN.

#### **Part 5 Overcoming obstacles to conflict prevention**

Conflict prevention is at the heart of the mandate of the United Nations. Successful conflict prevention is also sound protection of development investment. The imperative for effective conflict prevention goes beyond creating a culture, establishing a mechanism or summoning political will. The UN has a moral responsibility to ensure that vulnerable people's are protected and that genocides never occur again. Yet on two recent occasions, the UN failed to act. We are still far from a culture of conflict prevention and the question is "why is conflict prevention still so seldom practised, and why do we so often fail when there is a clear potential for a preventive strategy to succeed?"

#### **2 lessons**

1. If the government concerned refuses to admit that it has a problem that could lead to violent conflict, and rejects offers of assistance, there is very little outside actors can do. To be successful, the UN must have the consent and support of the government concerned.

2. If important neighbours, regional allies and other Member States of the UN do not lend their support to UN efforts, the action will not succeed.

Another obstacle is the ways in which Member States define national interest in any given crisis.

**"A new more broadly defined, more widely conceived definition of national interest in the new century would induce states to find far greater unity in the pursuit of the fundamental goals of the charter of the United nations. A global era requires global engagement. Indeed, in an era of a growing number of challenges facing humanity, the collective interest *is* the national interest.....if we do nothing - if we are quiescent in the face of war crimes and ethnic cleansing - we will not only risk being pushed to the margins of global politics but we will also betray the many millions who look to the United nations for the implementation of the high ideas of the Charter."**

Other obstacles - The costs of prevention have to be paid in the present. When prevention succeeds, little happens that is visible.

**10 principles outlined that should guide the future approach of the UN to conflict prevention - reproduced in full**

1. Conflict prevention is one of the primary obligations of Member States set forth in the Charter of the United nations, and the United Nations efforts in conflict prevention must be in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter

2. Conflict prevention must have national ownership. The primary responsibility for conflict prevention rests with national Governments, with civil society playing an important role. The United Nations and the international community should support national efforts for conflict prevention and should assist in building national capacity in this field. Conflict prevention activities of the United Nations can therefore help to support the sovereignty of Member States.

3. Conflict prevention is an activity best undertaken under Chapter VI of the Charter. In this regard, the means described in the Charter for the peaceful settlement of disputes are an important instrument for conflict prevention, including such means as negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement or other peaceful means, as set forth in Article 33 of the Charter. It must also be recognised that certain measures under Chapter VII of the Charter such as sanctions, can have an important deterrent effect.

4. Preventive action should be initiated at the earliest possible stage of a conflict cycle in order to be most effective.
5. The primary focus of preventive action should be in addressing the deep-rooted socio-economic cultural, environmental, institutional, political and other structural causes that often underlie the immediate symptoms of conflicts.
6. An effective preventive strategy requires a comprehensive approach that encompasses both short-term and long-term political, diplomatic, humanitarian, human rights, developmental, institutional and other measures taken by the international community, in cooperation with national and regional actors. It also requires a strong focus on gender equality and the situation of children.
7. Conflict prevention and sustainable and equitable development are mutually reinforcing activities. An investment in national and international efforts for conflict prevention must be seen as a simultaneous investment in sustainable development since the latter can best take place in an environment of sustainable peace.
8. The preceding suggests that there is a clear need for introducing a conflict prevention element into the United Nations system's multifaceted development programmes and activities so that they contribute to the prevention of conflict by design and not by default. This, in turn, requires greater coherence and coordination in the United Nations system, with a specific focus on conflict prevention.
9. A successful preventive strategy depends upon the cooperation of many United Nations actors, including the Secretary General, the Security Council, the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the International Court of Justice and United Nations agencies, offices, funds and programmes, as well as the Bretton Woods institutions. However, the United Nations is not the only actor best suited to take the lead. Therefore, Member States, international, regional and subregional organisations, the private sector, non-governmental organisations, and other civil society actors also have very important roles to play in this field.
10. Effective preventive action by the United Nations requires sustained political will on the part of Member States. First and foremost, this includes a readiness by the membership as a whole to provide the United Nations with the necessary political support and resources for undertaking effective preventive action in specific situations.

### **3. Summary of the debate in the Security Council on June 21,**

#### **For full Press Release:**

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2001/sc7081.doc.htm>

**Summary below written by WILPF UN Summer Intern, Shirley Ku**

#### **A. Deputy Secretary General Mme. Louise Frechette**

β Must intensify the efforts for the prevention of armed conflict by shifting from a culture of reaction to one of prevention.

β 10 Principles to Guide Decision ( by the Secretary General)

1. Primary obligation of member states to have conflict prevention.
2. Local actions and National government with UN support.
3. Ch. 6- The most useful form of prevention is the peaceful settlement of disputes. Ch.7- Economic sanctions used preventively.
4. Early prevention of conflict. If a problem is identified earlier, it is less likely to lead to conflict.
5. The need to address multi-dimensional root causes of conflict:
  - a. Socio-economic inequality
  - b. Dispute over political parties
  - c. Land, water and other resources (denial of basic human rights)
6. Comprehensive approach with short and long term development programs.
7. Investment prevention in sustainable development program.
8. UNDP from a conflict prevention perspective.
9. The active involvement not only of the UN, but also NGO's, delegates and civil society actors.
10. Effective prevention: sustained political will. Provide UN political

support and develop institutional priority.

### **β Other Recommendations**

- The practice of providing regional/sub-regional reports.
- The establishment of new mechanisms, new working groups and fact finding missions.
- A more active role for the General Assembly and ECOSOC
- Donor States should increase their level of assistance for peaceful equitable and just societies
- To take action beyond what is recommended. There is a moral responsibility for the vulnerable to be protected. (i.e. UN failed in the case of Rwanda and Yugoslavia)
- *Problem in the Past*: Government failed to admit their problems.

UN and Other actors lack the political will to act.

### **- *Collective Interest is Natural Interest***

### **B. Columbia**

The Columbian delegation noted that conflict prevention is an ethnical, political, and social commitment of their government. Their considerations include short and long term measures to be implemented but emphasized the need for long-term commitments because it is more suitable especially for the post conflict reconstruction of societies. Short-term missions such as preventative diplomacy and fact finding missions are also useful if they are integrated with the general strategies of organization. The interagency mission to West Africa should be studied in greater depth as a model for regional and sub-regional prevention.

### **C. Jamaica**

The Jamaican Delegation asserted that it was the collective responsibility of the national government, private sector, civil society, NGO's and the United Nations to carry out effective preventive action. The delegation supports the key role of the Secretary-General and the necessity for periodic, regional, and sub-regional reports. The Jamaican delegation emphasized the peace building component as an important rule in conflict prevention and noted that the monitoring of small arms and light weapons

is important. Special notice was made on the importance of disarmament and demobilization. The Delegation also made specific mention to Resolution 1325 concerning the need for greater attention to gender perspective, a resolution that still needs to be fully implemented for the sake of women, peace, and security.

#### **D. United States**

The US delegation stated that the primary responsibility of national government and civil society is that they need leadership and political will. A leader, like the Secretary-General is needed to improve and lead cooperation and coordination efforts in collaboration with the United Nations, ECOSOC members, etc...The delegation noted that the particular role of NGO is indispensable to a solution. Without the participation of private entities and NGO's, there can be little economic process.

#### **E. United Kingdom**

The United Kingdom reiterated the statement by the spokesperson for the Secretary General and added that it is important to translate the rhetoric of conflict prevention to concrete action. The delegation stated that the political, social, and economic factors must be addressed so that sustainable development and not conflict gains the upper hand. Other recommendations by the United Kingdom included more systematic cooperation between the UN and the Breton Woods institution and the importance of the ICJ in the settlement of disputes. The United Kingdom also agrees with the statement that will be made by the Sweden on behalf of the European Union.

#### **F. China**

The Chinese delegation stated the root of conflict stemmed from the economic, social, and historic traces of colonialism. The Cold war, they noted, increase the conflict with armed states, especially in the Middle East. The multi ethnic nature of communities need to be addressed in light of the increased ethnic tension and religions that have caused most conflicts. The delegation also stated the need to advocate national harmony and the equal participation of minorities. There is also a need to respect different religions. The Chinese delegation affirmed that the international community needs to address the democratization of countries but also abide by national sovereignty for the ultimate goal of peaceful coexistence. China stated that it is ready to make its contributions in Conflict Prevention.

## **G. Tunisia**

After 55 years of existence, the Tunisian delegation stated that the prevention of conflict is of primary importance, making note of a presidential statement on peace building. Peacekeeping missions are very important as well as a globally consistent strategy that will allow international communities to put conflict prevention at the heart of discussion for international peace and development.

## **H. Russian Federation**

The Russian delegation noted that they agreed with the main thrust of the report, especially in the key role of the United Nations in national capacity building and support of government concerning efforts to prevent conflict of political will. The delegation noted that it is important to confine yourselves to issues that affect the Security Council. The Russian Federation supports the recommendations by the Secretary-General, particularly the need for periodic formal meetings with exchange of productive dialog and Periodic reports for areas at risk.

## **I. Ireland**

The Irish delegation stated that they support the EU statement made by Sweden. With regards to the document in discussion, the Irish delegation felt that the report should be approached in terms of prevention on what the Security Council could do. Short and long term developmental aspects is necessary. The delegation made note of the problems facing conflict areas; one of these being the decline in aid flow to developing countries. Poverty is the root cause of conflict. The Irish delegation stated that it was important for the Security Council to provide support so that there is an increase in the GDP of countries by the year 2007. One suggestion was to enhance the coherence of major donors-including the EU, IMF and World Bank. Ireland made a special note of the disarmament component in peacemaking as well as the need to address gender equality and gender perspective.

## **J. France**

The French delegation supports the EU statement and underscored the need to gear strategies to address armed conflicts. Post-conflict peace building needs to be implemented fully to prevent succeeding generations to war. The delegation re-affirmed three points made by the Secretary General, including the need to develop a true culture of prevention, for increased coordination of actors to get involved in prevention policies and

the important role of the Security Council and the Secretary General.

### **K. Norway**

The Norway delegation noted that the conflict is clear, but that action is withheld. The local and underlying causes of conflict comes from poverty and armed conflict, two phenomenons that go hand in hand. The illegal trade of small arms must be prevented before conflicts arise. The delegation referred to the Small Arms Conference and the need to look at the prevention of illegal trade of small arms to be of primary importance.

### **L. Ukraine**

The Ukraine delegation stated the need for reliable mechanisms for the timely detection of conflicts. To do this, the delegation suggested the development of a comprehensive strategy with the 10 points made by the Secretary General as a guideline. Ukraine believes there needs to be a regional approach to existing problems and that identifying the actors involved is equally important. The Ukraine delegation suggested that the UN liaison offices coordinate UN conflict prevention centers.

### **J. Singapore**

Singapore applauded the work by Carnegie Company and the Peace Academy in their efforts for conflict prevention. The Singaporean delegation reaffirmed the need to translate the rhetoric of conflict prevention to concrete action. The delegation summoned collective political role of the Security Council and a more active role by the Secretary General. The Singaporean delegation also made note of the need for more periodical reports on the issues affecting conflict zones.

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