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**General and complete disarmament: the illicit trade in
small arms and light weapons in all its aspects**

**Letter dated 10 September 2002 from the Permanent
Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to convey to you a letter dated 8 July 2002 addressed to you by Ján Kubiš, Secretary-General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) (see annex), to which is attached the Model Answer for the OSCE Information Exchange on Small Arms and Light Weapons of 2001, in accordance with decision 9/02 of the Forum for Security Cooperation of OSCE, which is also enclosed.

I would be most grateful if the text of the present letter and its attachments could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 67 (v) of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Gonçalo de **Santa Clara Gomes**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/57/150.

Annex to the letter dated 10 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the Model Answer for the OSCE Information Exchange on Small Arms and Light Weapons of 2001 (see appendix II), in accordance with decision 9/02 of the Forum for Security Cooperation of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (see appendix I).

The Model Answer was prepared by the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre in order to assist the participating States in fulfilling their commitments regarding the June 2001 information exchange, as mandated by the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons. The document was designed to support participating States in their efforts to update their submissions of last year. It was based in part on an overview of the June 2001 information exchange, also prepared by the Conflict Prevention Centre at the request of the Forum for Security Cooperation. The overview, which reflected the general trends and patterns in the information shared by participating States, served the dual purpose of informing the Workshop on the Implementation of the OSCE Document, held on 4 and 5 February 2002, and providing useful information to delegations about practices and procedures implemented by the participating States.

I would be grateful if you could ensure that the text of the OSCE Model Answer on small arms and light weapons is distributed to all States Members of the United Nations.

(Signed) Ján **Kubiš**

Appendix I

**Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
Forum for Security Cooperation
362nd plenary meeting**

**Decision No. 9/02
Provision of the Model Answer for the OSCE
Information Exchange on Small Arms and Light Weapons
to the United Nations**

Appendix II

**Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
Conflict Prevention Centre
Vienna, 27 March 2002**

**Model Answer for the OSCE Information Exchange on Small
Arms and Light Weapons, 2001**