

United Nations Nations Unies

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Res. 68/23 – Information on military matters – input required by 30 April 2015

The Office for Disarmament Affairs presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to resolution 68/23, entitled “Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures” adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013.

By operative paragraphs 1 and 8 (a) and (b) of the resolution, the General Assembly:

“1. *Calls upon* Member States, with a view to achieving the broadest possible participation, to provide the Secretary-General, by 30 April annually, with a report on their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data are available, using, preferably and to the extent possible, one of the online reporting forms, including a nil report if appropriate, or, as appropriate, any other format developed in the context of similar reporting on military expenditures to other international or regional organizations;

8. *Encourages* Member States:

(a) To inform the Secretary-General about possible problems with the standardized reporting system and their reasons for not submitting the requested data;

(b) To continue to provide the Secretary-General with their views and suggestions on ways and means to improve the future functioning of and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system, including necessary changes to its content and structure, as well as recommendations to facilitate its further development;”

The Office for Disarmament Affairs stands ready to receive the information outlined above from the Permanent Missions’ Governments on-line through www.un-arm.org/MilEx/ReportingOnline.aspx by **30 April 2015**.¹ Governments can choose to use the ‘standardized reporting form’ or the ‘simplified reporting form’, depending on the complexity of their military budget. A ‘nil report’ can be submitted by those Governments who last year did not have any military expenditure but are nevertheless committed to the principle of transparency in military expenditures. Selecting the most appropriate form is a sovereign national decision.

National views as requested in paragraph 8 (a) and (b) can also be submitted, under the appropriate tab, and will be reproduced in the Annex to the Secretary General’s report.

¹ If the secure Web-based filing of reports poses technical difficulties to a Government’s national point of contact, please contact the Secretariat at: conventionalarms-unoda@un.org.

Those Member States with military and national security space activities are encouraged to include in their report such military space expenditure as well as other national security space activities, as applicable.² They may supplement their report with explanatory remarks regarding submitted data, such as total national security space expenditure as a share of gross domestic product and major changes from previous reports.

25 February 2015

T. C. H.

² Report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities (A/68/189*, para. 38), General Assembly resolution 69/38.