Parliaments in our region are entrusted with adopting relevant SALW Control legislation and ensuring its implementation. Moreover, parliaments could further make a substantial impact and improve SALW Control by addressing some outstanding issues:

- Transparency;
- Availability of official information on SALW;
- Prioritisation of the SALW issue on the agendas of donors, governments, NGOs and international organisations alike; and
- Maintaining political momentum, donor support and international technical assistance to see through the required changes to SALW Control policy.

The SALW Parliamentary Handbook was developed by SEESAC in collaboration with the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons in Sweden, using materials from various other sources, in support of a Regional Parliamentary Conference on SALW in November 2006, which resulted in the establishment of the Western Balkans Parliamentary Forum (http://www.seeparliamentaryforum.org/). The publication has been designed for parliamentarians in the region of South Eastern Europe but its basic principles can be applied globally.

The current update reflects the changes that have taken place in the Western Balkan countries in 2007. This publication is available on the SEESAC website (www.seesac.org). For more information please contact SEESAC Communications Officer and Western Balkans Parliamentary Forum Coordinator, Ms. Ana Martinovic (ana.martinovic@undp.org).
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