

## **Prof. Klein Calls for Small Arms Monitoring System at ECAAR-Japan Conference**

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Professor Lawrence Klein at an October 27 ECAAR-Japan Symposium called for a regulatory system to register and monitor transactions in small arms to decrease trafficking.

Reporting that world military spending had decreased by 37 percent from its peak in 1996, and that the number of people in armed forces was down by 24 percent, he pointed to three remaining problems:

- technological progress in armaments development had increased their lethality;
- weapons imports by Asian developing countries was increasing;
- the number of small arms are increasing, and means had not been found to monitor data on their production and trade.

More than 300 people participated in the Symposium on “The Security and Economy of Asia.” Most were university professors, politicians and government officials from the Defense Agency and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and Industry.

The session on “The Asian Economy After the Currency Crisis” was chaired by Prof. Akira Hattori of Fukuoka University and ECAAR-Japan. Isamu Miyazaki, former State Minister and Director General of the Economic Planning Agency, opened the meeting, and Prof. Klein gave the keynote address on “Recent Tendencies in Military Spending.”

Robert McNamara spoke on “Reflections on War in the 21st Century” in a session chaired by Nagaharu Hayabusa.

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