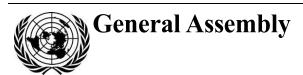
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Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly

# **United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament** in Asia and the Pacific

## Report of the Secretary-General

#### Summary

The present report provides an overview of the activities undertaken by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025, in line with General Assembly resolution 79/67.

During the reporting period, the Regional Centre worked with Member States and international and regional organizations to create and nurture platforms for dialogue and discussion on disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation across the Asia-Pacific region; developed and fostered meaningful partnerships with a broad range of partners and interlocutors; and, in line with its mandate, provided technical assistance, capacity-building and substantive support to Member States in the Asia-Pacific region.

Over the reporting period, the Regional Centre hosted six large virtual and inperson regional meetings on the core thematic areas of weapons of mass destruction, conventional arms, emerging technology including artificial intelligence, information and communications technologies and outer space, and disarmament education. The Centre also hosted over 10 technical workshops and coordination meetings across the region at the request of Member States.

Through the support of the European Union, the Regional Centre successfully delivered a programme of technical assistance and in-country support on the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. With support from China and the Republic of Korea and in partnership with the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit, the Centre also delivered two major conferences on the Convention. In response to the request from Member States contained in resolution 79/67, the Centre significantly increased its capacity and programming on new and emerging technologies, including outer space, information and communications technologies in the context of international security and the military applications of artificial intelligence.

<sup>\*</sup> A/80/50.





The Regional Centre depends solely on voluntary financial contributions to implement its programme of activities. The Secretary-General wishes to express his gratitude to Member States, in particular the host country, Nepal, and other partners that have provided support for the operations and programmes with financial and inkind contributions. The Secretary-General calls upon those in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions to the Centre to sustain and further develop its activities in response to the continuing requests for assistance and cooperation by Member States in the region.

#### I. Introduction

- 1. In its resolution 79/67, the General Assembly reaffirmed its strong support for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability and security among its Member States. It also expressed its gratitude to the Government of the host country, Nepal, for its cooperation and financial support. In addition, the Assembly encouraged the Regional Centre to explore new programmatic areas such as new and emerging technologies, including outer space, information and communications technologies in the context of international peace and security and the military applications of artificial intelligence. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its eightieth session on the implementation of the resolution.
- 2. The present report is submitted pursuant to the above-mentioned request and covers the activities of the Regional Centre from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. A financial statement on the status of the trust fund for the Centre for the year 2024 is contained in the annex to the present report.

### II. Function and mandate

3. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 42/39 D, the Regional Centre, located in Kathmandu, is mandated to provide, upon request, substantive support for initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by Member States in Asia and the Pacific for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament.

# III. Main areas of activity

#### A. Weapons of mass destruction

- 4. The security landscape in the region has become increasingly complex, driven by intensifying geopolitical tensions, mistrust, and the accelerated militarization of emerging technologies. These dynamics have heightened concerns on the need to strengthen efforts on disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The convergence of weapons of mass destruction-related risks with advances in artificial intelligence, cyber capabilities and outer space technologies has introduced new challenges to regional stability. In this evolving context, the Regional Centre has worked to promote transparency, dialogue and the implementation of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation measures, in line with the Pact for the Future.
- 5. The Regional Centre organized and supported a range of activities aimed at advancing nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, strengthening the norm against chemical and biological weapons and preventing the emergence of new domains of strategic competition and conflict. The Centre provided substantive support to Member States in the region on multiple elements related to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. These included continuing its support to the Government of Timor-Leste and providing guidance on the process to join the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone and advocating for Member States that had yet to do so to consider ratifying major international instruments, such as the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. For example, to support national ratification processes, the Centre co-organized, with the Government of Nepal and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, a national dialogue on ratifying the Treaty on 17 March 2025; the event brought together key national

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stakeholders to raise awareness and foster inclusive dialogue on advancing the country's ratification of the Treaty.

- 6. The Regional Centre deepened its engagement on biological security. From 23 to 25 October 2024, it co-organized a regional workshop on implementing the Biological Weapons Convention and promoting biosafety and biosecurity in South-East Asia in Shenzhen, China, in partnership with the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit and the Governments of China and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The workshop provided a platform for experience-sharing, peer networking and regional dialogue on strengthening the implementation of the Convention and resulted in a joint working paper being submitted to the Meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention in December 2024, as well as a side event held on the margins of the Meeting.
- 7. Asia-Pacific perspectives on strengthening the Biological Weapons Convention were also at the core of the twenty-third United Nations-Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Issues, jointly organized by the Regional Centre and the Government of the Republic of Korea on 4 and 5 November 2024 in Seoul. The twenty-third iteration of the Conference featured eight thematic sessions that explored emerging threats from converging technologies, such as biotechnology and artificial intelligence; the importance of international cooperation for preparedness and response; and the development of robust biosafety and biosecurity frameworks. A total of 119 participants (54 women and 65 men), composed of biological security experts and policymakers from the Asia-Pacific region and beyond, as well as representatives of international and regional organizations, examined regional and global collaboration mechanisms, emphasized the role of youth and education in building future biosecurity leadership, and debated the feasibility of verification and compliance tools under the Convention. The Conference concluded with a focus on identifying regional priorities and promoting inclusive, science-informed approaches to biosecurity governance, thereby contributing substantively to the discussions of the Working Group on the Strengthening of the Convention ahead of the Convention's fiftieth anniversary in 2025.
- 8. The Regional Centre participated in the joint regional outreach workshop for South-East Asian and Pacific Island States, held in Bangkok from 6 to 8 May 2025. The workshop brought together national focal points working on the implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention, the Secretary-General's Mechanism for Investigation of Alleged Use of Chemical and Biological Weapons, and Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), further strengthening regional coordination and cooperation on weapons of mass destruction-related instruments.

#### B. Conventional arms and ammunition

9. A rapid increase in military expenditure, strategic competition, and shifting alliances and priorities continue to shape the security landscape in Asia and the Pacific. This is increasingly evident with growing investments in conventional forces modernization, arms acquisitions, and a rapid integration of emerging technologies into defence doctrines across the region. Long-standing intra-State and inter-State conflicts continue to be a feature across the Middle East, South Asia and South-East Asia. Predominantly fought in urban centres, these conflicts result in "devastating and well-documented impacts on civilians, including massive loss of life and the extensive destruction of civilian infrastructure" (A/74/786, para. 13). The Middle East and South-East Asia experience the highest concentration of casualties of terrorism in the world (ibid., para. 16). These trends are exacerbating regional instability and triggering arms racing dynamics.

- 10. In this context, the Regional Centre intensified its efforts to promote dialogue, transparency and inclusive governance, in line with the Secretary-General's New Agenda for Peace. These efforts have contributed to renewed political commitment to implementing the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and to increased regional engagement in the newly adopted Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management.
- 11. During the reporting period, the Regional Centre concluded the implementation of a three-year global project funded by the European Union and managed by the Conventional Arms Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs. The project supported the implementation of the Programme of Action at the global and regional levels, enhanced national implementation through targeted technical assistance, and fostered synergies with complementary frameworks such as the women and peace and security agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 12. From 3 to 5 September 2024, the Regional Centre partnered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Armed Police Force of Nepal to organize a national workshop on global small arms and light weapons control instruments in Kathmandu. The event enhanced national dialogue and inter-agency coordination, with follow-up actions aimed at establishing a national coordination mechanism and defining national implementation targets.
- 13. In addition, in support of the leadership of Cambodia under the Programme of Action and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) declaration on combating arms smuggling, the Regional Centre, in collaboration with the South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, organized a study tour to North Macedonia and Serbia in December 2024. The visit enabled officials from the Ministry of Interior of Cambodia to examine good practices in regional cooperation and informed the drafting of the country's national small arms and light weapons strategy. High-level follow-up consultations were held in Phnom Penh in March 2025 to advance the strategy's development and promote deeper regional engagement under ASEAN.
- 14. From 19 to 21 May 2025, the Regional Centre, in partnership with the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs of Fiji and the Mines Advisory Group, conducted a national training on small arms and light weapons control, followed by technical risk assessments on weapons and ammunition management practices. Combining policy dialogue with practical exercises using the Modular Small-arms-control Implementation Compendium methodology and assessment tool, the training addressed national priorities such as stockpile management and concerning trends on the arms-drugs nexus and illicit trafficking and manufacturing of weapons.
- 15. As part of its ongoing efforts to promote gender-responsive approaches in conventional arms control, the Regional Centre, in partnership with the Government of Nepal and with funding from the European Union, convened an informal regional meeting in Kathmandu on 2 and 3 April 2025. The meeting, on the theme "Separate agendas, common objectives: lessons learned and opportunities from the progressive harmonization of small arms control and women, peace and security", brought together representatives from 19 States, regional organizations, civil society organizations and United Nations entities to foster dialogue on multidimensional approaches to preventing armed violence.
- 16. The Regional Centre continued to serve as one of the implementing agencies for the strategic partnership between the Office for Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme under their joint Saving Lives Entity initiative. In Papua New Guinea, with funding from the European Union and the Department of

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the Prime Minister and National Executive Council, a national action plan on small arms and light weapons control is expected to be presented to the Cabinet for endorsement and implementation. The Centre provided technical assistance to the Saving Lives Entity team for a small arms and light weapons survey in the Highlands Provinces of Papua New Guinea and to the United Nations Population Fund for research on the impact of armed violence on women and girls. The Centre is also partnering with the Mines Advisory Group to support the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary and the Papua New Guinea Corrections Services in strengthening physical security and stockpile management practices.

- 17. As part of the Saving Lives Entity Kyrgyzstan project, the Regional Centre worked with the United Nations Development Programme and the Resident Coordinator Office to deliver a range of joint activities. These efforts resulted in the establishment of an inter-agency working group and the enhancement of the National Security Council as the principal national coordination mechanism on small arms and light weapons. A comprehensive legal review of the national small arms and light weapons control framework was conducted, and a draft national action plan for 2024–2030 was developed to combat illicit small arms and light weapons trafficking and prevent armed violence among civilians.
- 18. Promoting the universalization and implementation of conventional arms treaties remained a priority. In February 2025, the Regional Centre and Small Arms Survey co-hosted a regional webinar marking the tenth anniversary of the Arms Trade Treaty, which provided a platform for sharing progress and challenges ahead of the Eleventh Conference of States Parties. With support from the Arms Trade Treaty voluntary trust fund, the Regional Centre is assisting Kiribati in preparing for ratification of the Treaty and expanded its engagement with Melanesian States to promote universalization across the subregion.
- 19. The safe and secure management of conventional ammunition remains a pressing challenge in Asia and the Pacific. The Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management provides a much-needed international instrument to guide States in identifying context-specific risks and strengthening national ammunition management capabilities, while fostering synergies with existing regional and subregional efforts. The Regional Centre has been actively engaged in raising awareness and supporting the implementation of the Framework. On 4 and 5 December 2024, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nepal, the Centre convened an informal regional meeting in Kathmandu to initiate a regional dialogue on the implementation of the political commitments under the Framework. The event brought together representatives from 19 Member States, regional organizations, United Nations entities and civil society organizations. To consolidate the discussions, the Centre published a briefing paper outlining the key regional challenges and opportunities identified during the meeting. <sup>1</sup>
- 20. Strengthening regional cooperation remained central to the Regional Centre's strategy. On 8 April 2025, the Centre was invited to participate in the seventh session of the Working Group on Arms Smuggling of the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime, held in Cambodia. This paved the way for deepening the engagement with the ASEAN secretariat on the implementation of the ASEAN declaration on combating arms smuggling.

<sup>1</sup> Available at https://front.un-arm.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Implementing-the-GFA-in-Asia-Pacific.pdf.

## C. Science and technology

- 21. States in the Asia-Pacific region are increasingly concerned at the prospect of new emerging technologies enabling the design and acquisition of new weapons technologies with unclear or potentially dangerous applications. A wide range of related issues have been discussed in the region, including technological advances in artificial intelligence, information and communications technologies and missiles, uncrewed aerial vehicles and other means of delivery of weapons of mass destruction, and their implications for international peace and security. Private sector entities from the region have increasingly been at the forefront of innovation and deployment of these new technologies, including for defence and security purposes, which has promoted further engagement by Member States from the region in the relevant multilateral discussions.
- 22. The Regional Centre continued to work with States in Asia and the Pacific to raise awareness and to promote and encourage responsible innovation and application of new technologies in the region. The Centre also worked to encourage States to actively participate in global discussions to ensure that regional priorities and challenges were reflected.
- 23. In partnership with Australia and Singapore, the Regional Centre hosted two virtual workshops to assist Member States in the Asia-Pacific region in preparing for the open-ended working group on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects. Held on 20 February and 12 March 2025, the two workshops were aimed at building the awareness of Member States in the Asia-Pacific region on the history and substantive elements of the working group. The goal was to enable a broader collective of Member States to contribute effectively in the working group process, which in turn would increase the inclusivity of the formal discussions. Twenty States from across the region participated in the virtual workshops. In addition, workshop organizers prepared a working paper with the intent of submitting it to the working group during substantive discussions. This virtual platform proved to be incredibly successful, and as a result, the Centre has already begun to roll out this model of capacity-building across a range of science and technology issues over 2025 and 2026.
- 24. The Office for Disarmament Affairs, through the Regional Centre, was also invited to contribute as a "knowledge partner" to the Global Technology Summit held in 2025, organized jointly by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace India and the Ministry of External Affairs of India, which was held in New Delhi from 10 to 12 April 2025. The Office contributed to panel discussions and closed-door exchanges on the protection of critical infrastructure from malicious cyber activity and the nexus between cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.

#### D. Strengthening partnerships for disarmament

- 25. Strengthening and diversifying partnerships to ensure inclusive and meaningful engagement with all partners and interlocutors in the region is critical for the success of the work of the Regional Centre. Deliberate efforts were made to deepen collaboration with national, subregional and regional organizations, various United Nations entities, agencies, funds and programmes, as well as civil society organizations, think tanks, academia and youth networks in the region.
- 26. Extensive consultations were held with the ASEAN secretariat; the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat; and the secretariat of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation. In turn, these entities actively participated in meetings hosted by the Regional Centre.

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- 27. The Regional Centre continued to build close linkages with the resident coordinator offices in Nepal, India, Kyrgyzstan and Papua New Guinea; and establish new relationships with resident coordinator offices in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and Thailand. The engagement was focused on delivering programmatic activities in a coordinated manner with the respective resident coordinator offices, as well as seeking the integration of disarmament and arms control considerations into the work of the respective United Nations country teams. This included comprehensive partnerships with the United Nations Development Programme in the joint delivery of Saving Lives Entity activities in Kyrgyzstan and Papua New Guinea; and facilitating visits of the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs in India with the support of the Resident Coordinator and the country team.
- 28. The work of the regional cooperation mechanism on small arms and light weapons and conventional ammunition in Asia and the Pacific continued to be facilitated by the Regional Centre over the reporting period. From its modest beginnings in October 2023, the mechanism has grown to include more than 35 entities and organizations from across the spectrum of United Nations agencies and offices, civil society and academia.
- 29. A concerted effort was made by the Regional Centre to collaborate and deepen ties with civil society organizations from across the region. This included developing close partnerships to facilitate project delivery, as the Centre did with the Mines Advisory Group in initiatives in Papua New Guinea. Similarly, the Centre worked closely with The Prajnya Trust (India) to organize and deliver the flagship Disarmament Toolkit online training course. The content was jointly developed, as was the facilitation of the course. In addition to being a "knowledge partner" for Carnegie India's Global Technology Summit in April 2025, the Centre also began a joint initiative to compile a publication with Carnegie India that focused on Asia-Pacific perspectives on the fiftieth anniversary of the Biological Weapons Convention.
- 30. With the support of the Government of Germany, the Regional Centre continued to embed youth voices and perspectives into all its programming and interventions. Some of the highlights included a dedicated youth-focused segment at the twenty-third United Nations-Republic of Korea Conference in November 2024; a thematic session on youth and disarmament at the third Disarmament Toolkit online training course in July 2024; and providing opportunities for the Asia-Pacific representatives of the 2024 Youth Champions for Disarmament cohort to deliver expert presentations at the informal regional meeting on the promotion of gender-responsive approaches in conventional arms control in April 2025.
- 31. The Asia-Pacific representatives of the Youth Champions for Disarmament also joined the rest of the global cohort during the meetings of the First Committee of the General Assembly in New York in October 2024 and engaged in a series of consultations and dialogues with Member States, representatives of international organizations and civil society leaders. They presented their individual projects to Member States, exemplifying dynamism, creativity, storytelling and the application of new technologies in their individual projects.
- 32. Actively maintaining outreach efforts with primary and secondary schools and universities throughout the region and beyond has remained a priority of the Regional Centre. Over the reporting period, the Centre delivered lectures at Zhejiang University (China), Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (Republic of Korea), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan, and Sciences Po (France).
- 33. During the reporting period, the Regional Centre organized a number of dialogues and exchanges between academics, policy analysts and civil society experts and the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs when she visited countries in

the region. During her visit to China in September 2024, the Centre coordinated her participation at a round-table discussion with policy experts from the Shanghai Institute of International Affairs and artificial intelligence scientists and technicians at the Ruijin Hospital in Shanghai. Likewise, during her visit to India in January 2025, the Centre organized an informal lunch between her and senior officials from strategic security-focused think tanks in New Delhi. The Centre also coordinated a round-table discussion hosted by Carnegie India between the High Representative and a broad collective of academics and policy experts on disarmament and emerging technology issues.

#### E. Future activities

- 34. The Regional Centre will continue its work to assist Member States in the region, upon request, to contribute to their national and regional efforts towards disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, and to promote dialogue, confidence-building, and peace and disarmament education.
- 35. Guided by several long-standing priorities derived from its mandate, the Regional Centre will continue to provide technical and substantive support to Member States in the region to meaningfully implement international instruments and treaty obligations. The Centre will also actively leverage its convening mandate to promote and facilitate dialogue and confidence-building. It will also continue to actively build new and strengthen existing partnerships to ensure the greatest impact from its limited resource envelope.
- 36. The year 2025 is a year of major milestones for nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Asia-Pacific region. It marks the thirtieth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Treaty of Bangkok) and the fortieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Rarotonga). The Regional Centre will be working with subregional partners in South-East Asia and the Pacific to celebrate these momentous milestones.
- 37. Preparations for the twenty-fourth iteration of the United Nations-Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Issues are under way. This annual conference remains a flagship activity of the Regional Centre to promote dialogue on critical issues of disarmament and non-proliferation in the Asia-Pacific region. Preparations are also under way for the Centre to plan, coordinate and deliver the first iteration of the Asia-Pacific regional programme of the global small arms and light weapons fellowship initiative by the end of 2025. Preparations are also under way to facilitate the hosting of the first iteration of the Asia-Pacific ammunition fellowship cohort in 2026. Following on from the highly successful virtual workshops in support of the open-ended working group on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects, the Centre will work closely with colleagues from the Office for Disarmament Affairs to host additional informative virtual workshops on issues where participation from the Asia-Pacific region remains low. This modality has proved to be an inclusive and cost-effective model for the Asia-Pacific region. The fourth annual Disarmament Toolkit training programme is also scheduled to be delivered by the Centre in September 2025. This fourth edition will include new features, including the integration of the Office's Disarmament Education Dashboard platform and new partnerships with research institutions and experts in the region who specialize in the regional dynamics of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation in Asia and the Pacific.

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# IV. Financial situation, staffing and administration

#### A. Financial situation

- 38. The Regional Centre was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 42/39 D on the basis of existing resources and voluntary contributions. In 2024, the Centre's trust fund received voluntary contributions in the amount of \$188,000. Information on the status of the trust fund for 2024 is contained in the annex to the present report.
- 39. The Secretary-General expresses his appreciation to the Government of Nepal for the long-standing financial and political support it has provided in its capacity as host country for the Regional Centre. The Secretary-General expresses his gratitude to the Member States that made financial and in-kind contributions to the Centre in 2024, namely China, the Republic of Korea and Thailand.
- 40. The Secretary-General also expresses his gratitude to the European Union, through which the Regional Centre was able to implement project activities in the Asia-Pacific region.
- 41. The Secretary-General recognizes financial and in-kind contributions to the Regional Centre from Asian and Pacific States as a clear indication of the value that Member States attribute to its expertise and technical assistance and therefore continues to encourage States in the region to provide such contributions.
- 42. The Secretary-General wishes to thank all Member States and partners for their generous contributions to and support for the Regional Centre and encourages their ongoing support to ensure that the Centre can continue to provide technical and capacity-building assistance to Member States in the region, at their request, in fulfilment of its mandate. Such financial and in-kind contributions remain essential to ensuring the sustainability of the operations, core activities and programmes of the Centre, which benefit Asia and the Pacific.

#### B. Staffing and administration

- 43. The regular budget of the United Nations funds the posts of one Senior Political Affairs Officer/Director of the Regional Centre (P-5), one Political Affairs Officer (P-3) and one General Service staff member (G-7, Local level).
- 44. The Secretary-General thanks the host country, Nepal, which funded two additional local General Service staff members through its annual contribution. The Secretary-General also encourages Member States to support the Regional Centre by providing it with gratis staff.

#### V. Conclusion

- 45. During the reporting period, the Regional Centre actively created and nurtured platforms for dialogue and discussion, provided technical assistance and support to Member States, and developed and fostered meaningful partnerships, including promoting the participation and engagement of women, young people, and a broad range of civil society.
- 46. The Regional Centre invested in its disarmament education activities, with the clear goal of increasing engagement with all Member States, as well as voices and analysts who have not had the opportunity to engage in discussions around disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation.

47. The Secretary-General calls upon those in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre to sustain and further develop its activities in response to the continuing requests for assistance and cooperation by Member States in the region. The Secretary-General also encourages States to continue to fully utilize the Centre's expertise and experience in their joint efforts to promote peace and security, the Pact for the Future and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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#### Annex

# Status of the trust fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific for 2024

(United States dollars)

Accumulated surplus/(deficit) as at 31 December 2024	921 403
Surplus/(deficit) for the year 2024	(120 873)
Total expenses and refunds	365 659
Refunds	15 631
Operating expenses <sup>b</sup>	350 028
Less: Expenses and refunds	
Total revenue	244 786
Investment revenue	48 474
Other revenue	8 312
Voluntary contributions <sup>a</sup>	188 000
Revenue	
Accumulated surplus, 1 January 2024	1 040 159

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Consists of voluntary contributions from China (\$45,000); the Republic of Korea (\$140,000); and Thailand (\$3,000).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Includes programme support cost.