

**Meeting of the Coordinating Committee
11 June 2003**

President's Summary

I. Review of the 12-16 May 2003 Standing Committee meetings

Coordinating Committee participants provided feedback on the 12-16 May Standing Committee meetings, with the general sense expressed being that all went well. The President shared with the Coordinating Committee information on participation, noting in particular that 24 States not Parties were registered for the meetings including some States that had not attended the meetings in recent memory.

There was general satisfaction with respect to the new procedures for preparing daily updates and for providing non-stop coffee service. Regarding technical matters, given the persistent problems with audio when videos are being shown it was suggested the further steps be taken in advance to test the audio-visual technology.

II. Update on reporting from the May 12-16 meetings

The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance indicated that, with the strong support of their Co-Rapporteurs, their meeting report had been completed and would be posted on the GICHD web site by 12 June. Co-Chairs responsible for the other three Standing Committees all indicated that their reports would be finalised by the end of the week.

With respect to the final reports of the Standing Committees, the President provided a one week extension – to 4 July – for Co-Chairs to provide reports to the ISU Manager.

III. Preparations for the activities of Contact Groups

Contact Group Coordinators shared reflections from their May meetings and gave initial indications of their intentions for meetings to be held on the margins of the Fifth Meeting of the States Parties (5MSP). With respect to the Resource Mobilisation Contact Group, it was noted that the Coordinator may prepare a food-for-thought paper in advance of the Contact Group's next meeting. With respect to the Article 7 Contact Group, it was noted that Article 7 reporting is proceeding well and that it was hoped that as a result of the actions of the Contact Group by the time of the 5MSP there would be few, if any, outstanding initial Article 7 reports.

With respect to preparations for September meetings of the Contact Groups, Thailand was asked to ensure that a system would be in place for Contact Group Coordinators to book meeting facilities at the 5MSP venue and to investigate the possibility of having lunch meetings.

IV. Update from the Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme

The Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme informed the Coordinating Committee that the costs of sponsorship for the May meetings had been covered. In

addition, the Coordinator indicated that while some funds had been deposited to support sponsorship for the 5MSP, all donors would have to ensure that they followed through on making sure previous pledges led to deposits in time for the meeting. In addition, it was noted that the Donors Group would meet by the end of the month to consider the future functioning of the programme, especially given that expectations for support are outpacing available resources.

The Coordinator was commended for his statement made at the 16 May Standing Committee meeting in which he underscored several important points related to the operations of the programme.

V. Update on preparations for the Fifth Meeting of the States Parties

Thailand provided an update on logistical and administrative arrangements, referring Coordinating Committee participants to the information document which was circulated on 16 May and which can be found on the GICHD web site. It was noted that all delegations should take steps to make hotel reservations and to indicate that they are 5MSP delegates in order to receive preferential rates. In addition, it was noted that the Executive Secretary would soon distribute to all States a registration form for the 5MSP.

The President reminded the Coordinating Committee of its role within the 5MSP rules of procedure with respect to responding to requests from organizations – other than those already listed in the rules – for invitations to the 5MSP. (See Annex.)

The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operations of the Convention indicated that in keeping with traditional practice, they would convene an informal information meeting in advance of the 5MSP in order for the Co-Chairs and the President-designate in particular to share important information related to the 5MSP. It was noted that this informal meeting would be held on September 1 or 2.

VI. Any other business

It was noted that this was the last Coordinating Committee meeting for Toru Takahashi of Japan, Fulvia Benavides Cotes of Colombia, Emmanuelle Lamoureux of Canada, Apirat Sugondhabhirom of Thailand, and Michael Oyugi of Kenya. In addition, it was noted that Knut Langeland of Norway and Radu Horumba of Romania, who were not present, had also attended their last meetings. All these individuals were thanked for their efforts and contributions. In addition, the Coordinating Committee welcomed new representatives from Kenya, Thailand, Romania, Peru and Norway.

VII. Next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Coordinating Committee will be held on Wednesday 6 August at 13:00.

Annex I

Excerpt from the draft 5MSP Rules of Procedure

I. Participation in the Meeting of the States Parties

Rule 1

1. States Parties present at the Meeting of the States Parties will be participants. Other States may participate in the Meeting of the States Parties as observers.
2. Relevant international organizations or institutions and regional organizations may attend the Meeting of the States Parties as observers.
3. The United Nations Secretary-General, the UNHCR, UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, WFP, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Sovereign Order of Malta, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining may attend the Meeting of the States Parties as observers.
4. Others that have received an invitation from the Coordinating Committee of Co-Chairs may attend the Meeting of the States Parties as observers, subject to approval of the Meeting of States Parties.

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