

**Meeting of the Coordinating Committee
18 February 2003**

President's Summary

I. Reflections on the 3-7 February 2003 Standing Committee meetings

Members of the Coordinating Committee expressed their satisfaction with the 3-7 February Standing Committee meetings, noting in particular the quantity and quality of participation on the part of mine affected States Parties, those in the process of destroying stockpiles and donors.

Several suggestions for further improvements were made, including: ensuring that a focus on increased preparations does not affect the informality of the meetings; further promoting the use of tools like the framework distributed by the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance; ensuring that panel presentations are shorter and provide more time for discussion; reaching out further to States not Parties to encourage their participation; investigating any possible flexibility regarding coffee breaks and coffee service; investigating the possibility of providing daily updates on the GICHD web site; and, taking steps to ensure that all delegations can be accommodated within the meeting room on the opening day of the meetings.

II. Update on reporting on the 3-7 February 2003 Standing Committee meetings

Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs representing each Standing Committee provided updates on the preparations of reports from their 3-7 February meetings, noting that all reports should be complete by the end of the week of February 24.

III. Schedule of preparations for the 12-16 May 2003 Standing Committee meetings

The Co-Chairs accepted to work towards ensuring that all steps would be taken resulting in a package of meeting materials for the May meetings being mailed out by the Implementation Support Unit on April 4. It was suggested that this package could be enhanced by including one-page document highlighting opportunities for participation by various actors. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies expressed their satisfaction with respect to the approach taken to mine action technology discussions the week of February 3 and indicated their intention to continue to investigate further enhancements.

IV. Preparations for the activities of Contact Groups

Contact Group Coordinators noted that each Contact Group had a very productive meeting the week of February 3 and that each was again planning a meeting for the week of May 12. The Contact Group Coordinators responsible for universalization and resource mobilisation agreed to work closely with the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention on ways to streamline panel presentations during the Standing Committee meeting.

V. Update from the Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme

The Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme informed the Coordinating Committee that 74 delegates had been provided with sponsorship, with 70 of these actually attending the meetings in February. The Coordinator indicated that the average cost to sponsor delegates had been kept at the usual level (i.e., an average cost of approximately CHF 3,200 per sponsored delegate) and that the financial situation of the programme was sound for sponsoring approximately the same number of delegates for the May meetings. The Coordinator also noted, though, that further resources would be required to ensure this level of sponsorship for the Fifth Meeting of the States Parties (5MSP).

VI. Any other business

- It was agreed to request that Thailand, at the next meeting of the Coordinating Committee, provide an update on preparations for non-substantive matters related to the 5MSP for which it is responsible.
- An update was provided on a February 11-12 conference in Kiev, which was intended to raise the awareness of the provisions of the Convention on the part of officials from Ukraine.
- The President informed the Coordinating Committee of his intention to highlight the March 1 fourth anniversary of the entry-into-force of the Convention by making a statement in the Conference on Disarmament (CD) and holding a news conference on February 27. The President encouraged others to make statements in the CD, particularly those States Parties that recently completed stockpile destruction as well as the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction.
- The President informed the Coordinating Committee that he would be traveling to Warsaw on March 1 to participate in events marking the anniversary of the entry-into-force of the Convention.
- The President reminded the Coordinating Committee of the announcement made by Cambodia on February 5 that it would host a regional conference in Phnom Penh March 26-28.

VII. Next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Coordinating Committee will be held on March 13 2003 at 13.00.