

Coordinating Committee Meeting
10 May 2004

President's Summary

I. Preparations for the 21-25 June Standing Committee Meetings

The Co-Chairs / Co-Rapporteurs provided updates on preparations for the Standing Committee meetings:

Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention: It was reported that consultations are ongoing on advancing discussions on matters pertaining to Articles 1, 2 and 3. In addition, it was noted that on Friday 25 June Contact Group Coordinators, if they wish, may provide updates on activities undertaken during the course of the week.

Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies: It was reported that an increased amount of time had been dedicated to providing mine-affected States Parties with an opportunity to share their problems, plans, progress and priorities for assistance.

Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration: It was reported that the Co-Chairs were undertaking efforts to encourage participation by some States Parties to ensure that they could seize the potential of the Standing Committee as a vehicle to share information.

Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction: It was reported that while the obligation to destroy stockpile mines is relevant for a decreasing number of States Parties the Co-Chairs would continue with vigorous efforts to encourage participation.

Regarding other organizational matters, the Coordinating Committee was encouraged to provide final changes to the package of meeting documents by the end of the day with a view to the package being distributed on 12 May. In addition, the Coordinating Committee was reminded that the Director of the GICHD will host a reception for all delegates on 22 June at *Villa Rive Belle*, not at the WMO Building.

II. Updates on activities of the Contact Groups

The Contact Group Coordinators provided updates on efforts undertaken since the last Coordinating Committee meeting and shared plans for the week of Standing Committee meetings:

Resource Mobilisation: It was noted that the Contact Group will meet on 22 June. The Coordinator noted that at the meeting she would seek views on possible elements for the Review Conference action plan, continue a dialogue on the role of development banks, and provide an opportunity for an update by the task force which is engaging the World Bank.

Regarding this task force, it was noted that plans for meetings with the World Bank, including with its President, are still in the works, with the first week in June a

possibility for an initial meeting. The Coordinating Committee Chair expressed his desire that efforts be accelerated to develop a draft strategy paper for such a meeting.

Article 7 Reporting: It was noted that the Contact Group will meet on 23 June. In addition, the Contact Group Coordinator provided a detailed update on the status of reports received to date, noting that the deadline for providing annual reports was 30 April. The Coordinator indicated that he was pleased with the reporting rate to date but urged increased efforts on the part of all actors to ensure that, in light of the upcoming Review Conference, the reporting rate this year would be the best yet. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction indicated that they are assisting in this effort by writing to all States Parties that have not yet submitted an initial Article 7 report.

Universalization: It was noted that the Contact Group will meet on 24 June and that efforts were underway to seek the input of Contact Group participants with respect to content that could be forwarded to the Review Conference President-Designate to be incorporated into a draft review and action plan. In addition, the Coordinating Committee Chair reported that he has been engaging the Contact Group Coordinator on the possibility of joint efforts in South East Asia. As well, it was reported that the President-Designate of the Review Conference was in Bhutan where he was going to raise the matter of accession to the Convention.

III. Sponsorship Programme update

The Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme reported that 73 delegates were sponsored in February at a total cost of approximately CHF 240,000. He indicated that CHF 230,000 is in the fund at present, implying that unless additional funds are received fewer delegates could be supported to attend the June meetings. He also noted that the Donors Group would have to make a decision regarding extending sponsorship to cover the 28-29 June Second Preparatory Meeting. Finally, the Coordinator reported that he would be departing in July and that his colleague from the United Kingdom, Guy Pollard, would become the new Coordinator.

It was reported that Ireland had become the most recent State Party to contribute to the Sponsorship Programme. In addition, two Coordinating Committee members announced pledges to provide funding to the Sponsorship Programme: Norway (NOK 1,000,000) and Belgium (€25,000).

IV. Implementation Support Unit update

The Implementation Support Unit (ISU) Manager recalled that given the additional workload anticipated in advance of the Review Conference, as a special measure in 2004, the ISU's 2004 budget included an amount for temporary assistance. In this context, the ISU Manager informed the Coordinating Committee that steps had been taken to acquire an individual for six months starting in mid-June to enable the ISU to meet the demands placed upon it to support communications matters pertaining to the Review Conference while ensuring ongoing excellence in servicing the Convention's current Presidency, the Co-Chairs and individual States Parties.

In addition, the ISU Manager provided an update on ISU financing, noting that the 2004 ISU budget totals CHF 498,000, that to date in 2004 contributions totaling approximately CHF 66,000 have been made and that there was a carry-over from 2003 of approximately CHF 290,000. Two Coordinating Committee members announced pledges to provide funding to the ISU Trust Fund: Norway (NOK 550,000) and Belgium (€15,000).

V. Preparations for the First Review Conference

The representative of the President-Designate reminded the Coordinating Committee that the Second Preparatory Meeting will take place 28-29 June at the Palais des Nations. It was emphasised that delegates from outside of Geneva should take necessary steps to ensure that they can access the Palais. In addition, it was reported that the President-Designate intends to distribute draft documents in advance of the Preparatory Meeting in order that they can serve as a basis for discussion.

The representative of the host country reported that it has established a national coordination secretariat headed by former Coordinating Committee participant Michael Oyugi. Canada indicated that it is contributing US\$ 100,000 to support the host country's secretariat.

VI. Any other business

- The ISU Manager provided an overview of regional conferences which have taken place in a manner consistent with the call made in the President's Action Programme. It was noted that conferences have taken place in Ouagadougou (West Africa), Bucharest (South Eastern Europe), Nairobi (West Africa), Dushanbe (Central Asia), and Amman (Middle East) and that conferences were planned for Vilnius (North Eastern Europe), Quito (the Americas) and Bangkok (South East Asia). It was highlighted that each of these conferences has been or will be significant in assessing progress and challenges in all relevant areas of implementation and in serving as an informal means for States Parties on a regional basis to prepare for the Review Conference.
- It was reported that a conference on mine action, which was supported by the Australian branch of the ICBL, was held in April in China.
- It was reported that the ICBL held its annual Landmine Monitor Global Researchers meeting in Sarajevo 3-5 May.

VII. Arrival / Departure

The Coordinating Committee Chair welcomed Ms. Rui Matsukawa of Japan to her first meeting of the Coordinating Committee. In addition, the Chair noted that Peter Truswell of Australia had recently departed and extended his thanks for Mr. Truswell's for his efforts in support of the Convention.

VIII. Next meeting

It was agreed that the Coordinating Committee would next meet on Friday 11 June.