

**Coordinating Committee Meeting
10 November 2004**

President's Summary

I. Updates on the activities of Contact Groups

A. Resource Mobilisation

The Contact Group Coordinator (Norway) reported that plans are in place to hold a Contact Group meeting in Nairobi on Monday 29 November to focus on the ongoing dialogue with development actors, including follow-up on recent engagement of the World Bank. In addition, it was indicated that the European Investment Bank and / or the African Development Bank would be invited to the Contact Group meeting. It was also indicated that another focus would be on cost effectiveness, particularly in the looking at this matter in the context of the draft Review Conference documents.

The Chair reported that on 20 September 2004, Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and President of the Fifth Meeting of States Parties (5MSP) met with Mr. James Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank, in Washington, D.C., to discuss possible cooperation between the World Bank and the mine action community. The two sides noted with satisfaction the results of the preliminary meeting held earlier on 22 July 2004 between the Resource Mobilization Task Force led by Dr. Sorajak Kasemsuvan, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand and Mr. Ian Johnson, Vice President, Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development Network of the World Bank. A Joint Press Statement was issued, with the World Bank reaffirming its support for mine action, particularly projects with clear developmental benefits. The President of the World Bank informed the 5MSP President that he would send a high-level representative to attend the Nairobi Summit and that in the margin of the Summit, the World Bank would hold a briefing session on its work on mine action in conflicted-affected countries.

Japan asked that the Coordinating Committee be kept informed about activities taking place on the margins of the Nairobi Summit that relate to the topic of resource mobilization.

B. Article 7 Reporting

The Contact Group Coordinator (Belgium) reported that more information on reporting would be forthcoming in Nairobi, but that at this stage the reporting rate was very high. The ICRC reported that it had received a copy of an initial Article 7 report from Liberia.

C. Universalization

The Contact Group Coordinator (Canada) reported that no Contact Group meeting will be held in Nairobi, but that a series of targeted universalization initiatives would be undertaken instead. In particular, efforts would be made to reach out to the member States of the Gulf Coordinating Council and to involve parliamentarians in universalization efforts.

The Chair reported that Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and 5MSP President, had dispatched special envoys to Bahrain, Bhutan, Mongolia, Morocco, Oman, Ukraine and the United Arab Emirates to promote universal acceptance of the Convention. Bahrain and Bhutan have shown strong willingness to join the Convention in the near future while Morocco, UAE and Oman are supportive of the principles of the Convention and would consider sending their representatives to attend the Nairobi Summit. Austria reported that he had observed progress towards ratification / accession on the part of Bahrain, Indonesia, Palau, and Poland.

II. Sponsorship Programme update

The Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme donors' group (United Kingdom) reported that there were 98 confirmed sponsored participants for the Nairobi Summit and that this round of sponsorship would be the largest yet – in terms of both numbers and funds spent. Approximately CHF 470,000 has been raised for sponsorship for Nairobi.

III. Update on preparations for the First Review Conference (Action)

It was recalled that Rule 1.4 of the Review Conference's draft rules of procedure states that organizations requesting observer status which otherwise are not mentioned in the Rules of Procedure may attend the Review Conference as observers upon receipt of an invitation to do so from the Coordinating Committee subject to approval of the Review Conference. In issuing invitations to others to attend the Review Conference as observers, the Coordinating Committee shall take into consideration criteria such as whether the proposed observer is a non-profit entity and whether its purpose and activities are consistent with the object and purpose of the Convention.

In this context, the Coordinating Committee was reminded that on 5 October a message to it was sent by the ISU Manager on behalf of Ambassador Chaiyong in which Ambassador Chaiyong sought consent for certain actions. That is, the Coordinating Committee was advised that if no contrary views were expressed by the close of business on Friday 8 October, it would be assumed that the following may take place, subject to the approval of the Review Conference:

- All organizations that previously had received Official Observer status at Meetings of the States Parties in accordance with Rule 1.4 should again have this status recommended for them for the Review Conference if they so wish to have this status.
- The following two organizations that have made requests for observer status should be granted this status in accordance with Rule 1.4: the Mines Awareness Trust and "FAFO" (the Institute for Applied International Studies). (It was noted that both organizations are non-profit entities and their purposes and activities are consistent with the object and purpose of the Convention.)
- Further requests for Official Observer Status in accordance with Rule 1.4 would be dealt with by email wherever possible in order to expedite responses to these requests.

It was reported to the Coordinating Committee that no dissenting voice was expressed and thus these actions were carried out.

In addition, the Coordinating Committee was asked for recommendations regarding additional organizations seeking Official Observer Status in accordance with Rule 1.4. It was agreed that the following organizations that made requests for observer status should be granted this status in accordance with Rule 1.4, subject to the approval of the Review Conference: APOPO, Cleared Ground Demining, Federation Suisse de Deminage / Swiss Foundation for Mine Action, International Society for Military Law and the Law of War (AISBL), the East Africa Mine Action Training Centre of the British Peace Support Team, and Muslim Youth Development.

The ISU Manager was tasked with obtaining more information in order that an informed decision could be taken by the Coordinating Committee: GAPIC Antimines Center, Medicovet Rural Development Society, Anti-Mines Association, El Grupo Sobrevivientes de

Minas AP y Municiones sin Estallar de las Américas, and Mines-UXO Awareness Center Chile.

IV. Update on preparations for the First Review Conference (Information)

A. Update on preparations for the First Review Conference (Austria)

The representative of the President-Designate informed the Coordinating Committee that revised draft documents had been submitted to the United Nations for formatting, translation and distribution, and, that the President-Designate had sent informal versions of these documents to all States on 8 November. The Coordinating Committee was also informed that the President-Designate would convene an informal information meeting in Geneva on 18 November.

B. Update on organizational arrangements (Kenya)

The representative of the Host Country and the Secretary-General-Designate provided an update, reminding the Coordinating Committee of procedures to obtain visas and indicating that the opening ceremony on 28 November will be presided over by the President of Kenya and will feature “a Kenyan surprise.” The ISU Manager provided an update on a recent organization mission to Nairobi, indicating that organizational matters were being well taken care of by the Host Country and the United Nations. In addition, Coordinating Committee members were advised to register in accordance with the announced procedure as this is essential to enable the Host Country to prepare to receive delegates.

V. Annual UNGA First Committee resolution on the implementation of the Convention

The Chair reported that this year Thailand tabled the annual UNGA First Committee resolution on the implementation of the Convention with 148 co-sponsors. During the adoption of the resolution in the First Committee on 1 November 2004, the resolution received 140 votes in favour, 1 against, with 18 States abstaining from the vote. The negative vote was wrongly cast by the representative of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea who explained after the vote that he wished to abstain. During the explanation after the vote, Somalia and Papua New Guinea who were not in the room during the voting also expressed their wishes to vote in favour of the resolution. The Chair indicated that the resolution will be considered by the General Assembly prior to the Nairobi Summit.

VI. Consultations on the draft 2005 ISU budget

It was noted that the agreement on the functioning of the ISU that was finalised between the President of the 3MSP and the Director of the GICHD indicated that an annual budget for the ISU will be established and that it shall include figures for the forthcoming financial year and, if necessary, indicate a set of priorities that shall be understood as guidelines in order to allocate available resources. In this context, the ISU Manager presented the draft 2005 ISU budget to the Coordinating Committee. (See attachment 1.)

The ISU Manager indicated that the total budgeted amount was less than that budgeted for 2004 because the 2004 budget had included a provision for temporary assistance to meet additional demands placed upon the ISU in the advance of the Review Conference.

It was also indicated that the budget, in its final form, would be distributed by the President to all States Parties along with an appeal for States Parties to make contributions to the ISU Trust Fund. In this regard, the Chair appealed to Coordinating Committee members to provide financial support to the ISU.

VII. Updates on regional conferences

The Chair reported that from 30 August to 1 September 2004 Thailand hosted a regional conference on the pursuit of the Convention's aims in South East Asia. The ISU Manager reported that on 12-13 August Ecuador had hosted the annual Americas regional mine action conference.

VIII. Any other business

The Chair reported that Bangladesh had commenced with its stockpile destruction programme and congratulated Bangladesh in this regard.

IX. Closure of the meeting

The Chair closed the meeting – the last under the Presidency of Thailand – expressing his gratitude that Thailand had the opportunity to contribute to efforts to advance the Convention's aims during the past year. In addition, the Chair thanked the Coordinating Committee for its dedication and hard work since the 5MSP.

Attachment #1:

DRAFT 2005 Budget for the Implementation Support Unit

Background

1. At the September 2001 Third Meeting of the States Parties (3MSP) the States Parties endorsed the President's Paper on the Establishment of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) and mandated the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) to establish the ISU. The 3MSP also encouraged States Parties in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions in support of the ISU. In addition, the States Parties mandated the President of the 3MSP, in consultation with the Coordination Committee, to finalise an agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD on the functioning of the ISU.
2. The Council of Foundation of the GICHD accepted this mandate on 28 September 2001.
3. In accordance with the above-mentioned actions taken by the States Parties at the 3MSP, on 7 November 2001 an agreement on the functioning of the ISU was finalised between the States Parties and the GICHD by the President of the 3MSP and the Director of the GICHD. This agreement indicated that an annual budget for the ISU will be established and that it shall include figures for the forthcoming financial year and, if necessary, indicates a set of priorities that shall be understood as guidelines in order to allocate available resources.

Activities

4. The general duties – hence the general priorities – of the ISU are listed in the President's Paper that serves as the mandate for the Unit. These duties include the following:
 - Providing support and executing follow-up with respect to the work of the Coordinating Committee;
 - Providing support across all facets of the current and incoming Presidents' duties;
 - Providing support to the work of the Standing Committees, particularly by providing advice and assistance to the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs;
 - Serving in an important communication and liaison role with respect to the Convention, including by ensuring timely and consistent communication about the implementation process to all interested actors;
 - Providing support to the Sponsorship Programme; and,
 - Maintaining a documentation resource facility on the Convention.
5. In a manner consistent with the President's Paper, the ISU, in the performance of its substantive duties on implementation issues, will continue to receive direction from and support the work of the Coordinating Committee, ensuring ongoing input from States Parties into the work of the ISU. The Manager of the ISU, on behalf of the Director of the GICHD, will continue to participate in meetings of the Coordinating Committee to ensure effective and close communications and coordination.
6. Costs for basic infrastructure and services in support of the ISU (e.g. human resources, information technology, conference management, administration, accounting, communications, office space) are borne by the GICHD general budget, as are costs related to the administration of the Sponsorship Programme.* Costs that are covered by the ISU budget are the following:
 - a) Personnel: The agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD indicates that the ISU should remain small in number of staff. In a manner consistent with this provision,

* While the Sponsorship Programme's administration costs are covered by the GICHD general budget, the Programme's funding in its entirety is the responsibility of a group of donors.

the staffing of the ISU in 2005 will be 2.5 units. This includes a full-time manager, a full-time implementation support officer and a half-time administrative assistant.

- b) Operations: These costs include travel and related costs for ISU staff as well as a small amount that again has been budgeted to support costs of special activities.

<i>(CHF)</i>	Budget 2005	<i>Budget 2004</i>
Personnel		
- Salaries	330,000	327,000
- Social costs	79,000	78,000
Operations		
- Travel	45,000	43,000
- Support	15,000	10,000
Temporary assistance	---	40,000
Total costs	469,000	498,000

7. In accordance with the President's Paper on the Establishment of an Implementation Support Unit, a fund for voluntary contributions to finance the activities of the ISU has been established, with States Parties to endeavour to assure the necessary financial resources. The relevant details of this fund are as follows:

UBS Geneva, P.O. Box 2600, CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland

Swift code: UBS W CH ZH 12A

Account no.: FP 100 627.6

Account owner: Centre international de déminage humanitaire - Genève