

**Coordinating Committee Meeting
11 June 2004**

President's Summary

I. Preparations for the 21-25 June 2004 Standing Committee meetings

A. Co-Chairs' preparations: The Co-Chairs provided updates of steps they are taking to prepare for the 21-25 June Standing Committee meetings:

- The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention indicated that they are preparing a paper to serve as the basis for discussion on various Articles of the Convention.
- The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance reported that letters signed by the Ambassadors of Japan and Cambodia had been sent to over 30 mine-affected States Parties to encourage their participation.
- The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance indicated that they too had sent letters to several mine-affected States Parties, contacted some donors to encourage their participation and were grateful that the Sponsorship Programme would support the participation of an expert speaker on the topic of economic reintegration.
- The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction indicated that they have made contact with States Parties which are in the process of fulfilling Article 4 obligations and that they have been active in contributing to the process to develop draft documents for the Review Conference.

B. Other administrative / logistical preparations: The ISU Manager provided an overview of side events to which Coordinating Committee participants can expect to receive invitations, noting in particular the GICHD Director's reception on 22 June and the Raising the Voices ceremony on the morning of 25 June. In addition, Canada indicated that along with the Geneva Forum it is supporting an event during the lunch break on 25 June at which a legal commentary on the Convention will be launched. The ICBL confirmed once gain its invitation to members of the Coordinating Committee to attend the IICG's 11th working group meeting on Sunday 20 June, to be followed by a reception.

C. Russian interpretation: The ISU advised the Coordinating Committee that there is an increased demand for the Russian interpretation to be provided at the Standing Committee meetings, particularly given that Turkmenistan will participate in the meetings in June for the first time. Action to address this matter was encouraged with a set of pragmatic suggestions proposed.

D. Reporting: It is agreed that the reports, prepared by the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs, be finalized no later than 26 July.

II. Updates on the activities of Contact Groups

A. Resource Mobilisation: Norway noted that the Contact Group will meet during the lunch break on 22 June and that both the European Investment Bank and the European Commission had been invited to participate. Thailand reported that the informal "task force", under the leadership of Thailand as the 5MSP President, would meet with the Vice-President of the World Bank in Washington on 22 July. All interested parties were invited to contribute input to this effort. Canada indicated that a working dinner for members of the taskforce would be held in the evening of 24 June.

B. Article 7 Reporting: It was noted that the Contact Group Coordinator had sent an email notifying Contact Group participants of the meeting during the lunch break on 23 June and reporting that the annual reporting rate in 2004 has already exceeded the 2003 rate.

C. Universalization: Canada noted that the Contact Group will meet during the lunch break on 24 June and highlighted that since the February meeting an emphasis has been placed on engaging States not parties that continue to use and / or produce and / or retain large numbers of stockpiled antipersonnel mines. Canada sought input on a draft agenda for the Contact Group meeting. New Zealand reported that it is working closely with Thailand, Canada and Australia in engaging two South East Asian States not parties to the Convention, namely Singapore and Vietnam. A joint demarche will be presented to high-level authorities concerned of the two countries in the week prior to the Standing Committees Meeting.

III. Sponsorship Programme update

The United Kingdom reported that funding has been obtained to assure the sponsorship of approximately 90 delegates for the June meetings. It was noted that more funding will be needed to meet the needs of the Review Conference.

IV. Implementation Support Unit Update

In accordance with the agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD, the ISU Manager distributed to the Coordinating Committee the audited financial statement of the ISU Voluntary Trust Fund for the year 2003.

V. Update on preparations for the First Review Conference

A. Update on preparations for the Second Preparatory Meeting: It was noted that the President-Designate had forwarded to the Secretariat documents for distribution in advance of the 28-29 June Second Preparatory meeting.

B. Update on organizational arrangements: Kenya provided a preview of news it will be able to share with the States Parties at the Preparatory Meeting, noting in particular that: the 28 November opening ceremony will be held in the Kenyatta International Conference Centre in Nairobi; letters signed by the President of Kenya have been sent to his counterparts; the host country agreement with the United Nations is close to being finalised; an official travel agency has been appointed; and, a brochure on organizational matters is being prepared for distribution at the Preparatory Meeting.

VI. Any other business

It was reported that the *Vilnius Seminar* was held on 7-9 June – the sixth regional seminar of its type that had taken place this year. It was indicated that the seminar was a success in serving as an informal means for States in Northern and Eastern Europe to prepare for the Review Conference.

VII. Proposed date of next meeting

No date was set for the next meeting, although there was a sense that it should take place after the 22 July *task force* meeting with the World Bank – likely the last week of July or first week of August.