

**Coordinating Committee Meeting  
30 July 2004**

**President's Summary**

**I. Reflections on the 21-25 June 2004 Standing Committee meetings**

Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs shared reflections on the 21-25 June Standing Committee meetings:

- a) The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention remarked that a successful session was held on 21 & 25 June and that a good debate on Articles 1, 2 and 3 occurred. They noted that this matter is now in the hands of the President-Designate. The representative of Austria, on behalf of the President-Designate, added that the President-Designate – along with two of his Friends in particular, Nicaragua and Norway – is reflecting upon this debate and on these matters more generally. He is considering (a) how to best reflect five-years of discussions on these matters in the Review, (b) what actions – if any – States Parties wish to collectively commit themselves to in the Action Plan, and (c) what – if any – conclusions on implementation the States Parties may wish to draw on these matters. Coordinating Committee members were also advised that the President-Designate would welcome any concrete suggestions they may have to provide.
- b) The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies remarked that the success of their meeting could in a large part be measured by the fact that a record number of mine-affected States Parties provided updates on their problems, plans, progress and priorities for assistance.
- c) The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration also expressed pleasure in the fact that so many affected States Parties shared information. This also indicated their gratitude for the Sponsorship Programme having provided support to an expert speaker from Afghanistan and that the Raising the Voices Programme again made a major contribution to the week's activities.
- d) The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction noted that the Standing Committee had an excellent meeting, with most of the remaining relevant States Parties having provided updates. They expressed their disappointment, however, in the fact that no State Party other than Canada participated in discussions on cooperation and assistance.

**II. Update on reporting**

The Coordinating Committee was reminded that at the last meeting it has been proposed that reports prepared by the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs be finalized no later than 26 July. The ISU Manager indicated to the Coordinating Committee that different Standing Committees were at different stages of completing their reports, with the report from Stockpile Destruction virtually complete and the reports from the other three Standing Committees likely to be finalized soon.

**III. Updates on the activities of Contact Groups**

A. Resource Mobilisation

The Contact Group Coordinator (Norway) reported that in June the Contact Group received an update on the programmes and plans of the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid

Office (ECHO) and that it had discussed relevant aspects of documents that had been prepared for the Second Preparatory Meeting. Efforts would continue to engage the European Investment Bank and the African Development Bank.

The Chair reported that on 22 July 2004, H.E. Dr. Sorajak Kasemsuvan, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, on behalf of the President of the Fifth Meeting of the States Parties (H.E. Dr. Surakiart Sathirathai, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand) led a delegation of the *Resource Mobilisation Task Force* to meet with Mr. Ian Johnson, Vice President (Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development) of the World Bank.

It was noted that the World Bank responded very positively to the Task Force's presentation and that it made the following commitments: (a) it agreed to establish partnership with the Task Force and mine action community by assigning Mr. Ian Bannon, Manager of the Conflict Prevention and Reconstruction Programme, to be a contact person in liaising with the Task Force's focal points, i.e. Mr. Jean Devlin, Chief of Mine Action Unit, CIDA, and Mr. Earl Turcotte, Development Advisor of Mine Action Team, UNDP; (b) it expressed its intention to raise the issues discussed with the Task Force at the next meeting of the Bank's Board of Directors; (c) it requested the Task Force to provide inputs for the Bank's transmission note for further circulation to the Bank's country directors and managers in raising their awareness regarding the link between mine action and development; (d) it agreed to follow up on the participation of Mr. James Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank, in the Nairobi Summit; (e) it agreed to organise a briefing on a relevant topic in the margins of the Summit.

The Chair noted that he would soon distribute a summary of the meeting to all States Parties and relevant organizations.

#### B. Article 7 Reporting

No update. **(Belgium as the focal point of the Contact Group was not present.)**

#### C. Universalization

The Contact Group Coordinator (Canada) sought input on priorities for universalization efforts in the lead-up to the Nairobi Summit and asked the Coordinating Committee to provide feed-back on whether it would be useful to have a meeting of the Contact Group on 23 September. The Chair reiterated the call for there to be 150 ratifications or accessions in time for the Nairobi Summit on a Mine-Free World. Australia reported that Papua New Guinea recently acceded to the Convention, becoming the 143<sup>rd</sup> State to have joined the Convention.

### **IV. Sponsorship Programme update**

The Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme donors' group (United Kingdom) reported that sponsorship had been provided to 88 delegates to participate in the June meetings, including 71 representing mine-affected States Parties, 7 representing non-mine-affected States Parties, 4 representing universalization candidates and 2 expert speakers. The June meetings cost the donors CHF 352,000 – or an average of CHF 4,000 per delegate. It was highlighted that less than CHF 100,000 remains in the programme's fund and that an additional CHF 260,000 is required in order to meet the programme's target of sponsoring 100 delegates to attend the Nairobi Summit.

## **V. Update on preparations for the First Review Conference**

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

The representative of the President-Designate provided a detailed overview of the status of substantive preparations, noting that Ambassador Petritsch was extremely pleased with the outcome of the June Second Preparatory Meeting: Dozens of States Parties and several organizations provided concrete and focused inputs on the Review, Action Plan and Future Meetings, enabling Ambassador Petritsch to prepare more advanced versions prior to the informal meeting he will convene on September 24. In addition, supporting the effort of advancing the substance of the Review Conference were 19 States Parties, the UN, the ICRC, ICBL, GICHD and European Commission – all of which provided written comments following the Preparatory Meeting.

It was reported that Ambassador Petritsch, with the support of his Friends-of-the-President, is working to produce advanced versions of documents by the end of August, with a view to them being distributed the first week of September. During this period of redrafting, Ambassador Petritsch would like to call upon the support of the Coordinating Committee given the fact that Coordinating Committee members have acquired a great deal of expertise on various substantive areas of implementation. He would thus be grateful if Coordinating Committee members could review working drafts of various documents, with his intention being to distribute working drafts to Coordinating Committee members in early- to mid-August and requesting comments back within one week of receipt of the documents.

Finally, the Coordinating Committee was reminded of the President-Designate's intention that the September 24 meeting result in as much informal agreement as possible on substantive matters pertaining to the Review Conference. Working sessions during the Review Conference are limited, particularly given the time consumed by the high-level segment. Therefore, an appeal for the cooperation, assistance and input well in advance of September 24 was made.

Further to the update provided by the President-Designate's representative, the Chair asked that clarity be provided regarding the composition and the chairmanship of the Coordinating Committee in the period following the First Review Conference up until the 6MSP. The Netherlands indicated that the current system was working well and that it felt there was no need to change it. Canada indicated that these matters were in the hands of the States Parties and would be worked out in the course of the Preparatory Process.

### B. Update on organizational arrangements (Kenya)

The representative of the Host Country and the Secretary-General-Designate provided an update, announcing that the new Secretary-General Designate is H.E. Ester M. Tolle and confirming that the Kenyatta International Conference Centre will be restored to its original glory in time for the 28 November opening ceremony.

Questions were raised regarding (a) the status of invitation letters from the President of Kenya to his counterparts, (b) details concerning the opening ceremony, and (c) the ease with which major currencies can be exchanged in Nairobi.

In addition, the ISU Manager reported that on 6 July in Nairobi he supported briefings hosted by the President-Designate's representative and the Host Country at which information on the Nairobi Summit was provided to journalists and the diplomatic community in Nairobi

### C. Coordinating Committee actions in advance of / related to the Review Conference

The ISU Manager provided the Coordinating Committee with *food-for-thought* regarding various actions Coordinating Committee members may wish to take on in coming months to help support a successful Nairobi Summit. He noted that while the Coordinating Committee no longer has Standing Committee meetings for which it has to prepare, Coordinating Committee members could still promote effective implementation of the Convention's mine clearance, victim assistance, stockpile destruction and other provisions.

The Coordinating Committee was also reminded that in accordance with Rule 1.4 of the Rules of Procedure for the First Review Conference, the Coordinating Committee has a role to play in responding to requests by various organizations (i.e., those organizations not listed elsewhere in the Rules) that wish to have the status of "Observer" at the Review Conference. (See attached.)

#### **VI. Annual UNGA First Committee resolution on the implementation of the Convention**

Thailand reported that it has begun to give thought to the annual UN First Committee resolution on the implementation of the Convention. The ISU Manager advised that any resolution drafted this year would have to take into consideration that the resolution would be agreed to in the First Committee prior to the Nairobi Summit but possibly not adopted by the General Assembly until after the Nairobi Summit.

Canada, the Netherlands and Sweden made a series of suggestions to be considered in the context of this matter. Canada also indicated that it had not made up its mind whether a resolution is needed in the First Committee this year. Thailand and the ISU indicated that from an operational point of view, the necessary action to be contained in the resolution would be to request that the UN Secretary-General undertakes necessary preparations for a likely Sixth Meeting of the States Parties in 2005.

The Chair asked for inputs to the draft resolution to be prepared by Thailand and ISU by 20 September 2004.

#### **VII. Any other business**

The Chair reminded the Coordinating Committee of the upcoming regional conference in Bangkok, 30 August to 1 September.

#### **VIII. Proposed date of next meeting**

No decision was taken on the date of the next meeting, although it was agreed that it should take place before many Coordinating Committee members depart for New York for the opening of the First Committee (not later than 27 September).

**Attachment #1:**

**REVISED DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE  
FIRST REVIEW CONFERENCE  
to be held in Nairobi on 29 November to 3 December 2004**

CHAPTER I. PARTICIPATION IN THE REVIEW CONFERENCE

Rule 1

Participation in the Review Conference

1. States Parties present at the Review Conference will be participants. Other States may participate in the Review Conference as observers.
2. Relevant international organizations or institutions and regional organizations may attend the Review Conference 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 Review Conference as observers.
4. Others that have received an invitation from the Coordinating Committee may attend the Review Conference as observers, 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.
5. The plenary meetings of the Review Conference shall be held in public unless the Conference decides otherwise.