

**Coordinating Committee Meeting
Monday 4 April 2005**

President's Summary

1. Preparations for the 13-17 June meetings of the Standing Committees

The Chair expressed his appreciation of the extent to which preparations had proceeded since the 14 February Coordinating Committee retreat. Further to the retreat, the chair recalled that one outstanding piece of business concerned the time allocations for and sequencing of Standing Committee meetings. The Chair indicated that thanks to the flexibility of various Co-Chairs, the matter had been resolved. (See attached calendar.)

The Coordinating Committee was reminded that prior to the meeting two documents were sent to it for consideration – (a) a draft programme for the week of Standing Committee meetings, and, (b) a draft guide to the week of meetings (i.e., essentially an annotated agenda). It was proposed that this second document serve to replace the numerous “Co-Chairs suggestions” documents and other background materials that had been prepared in the past. In addition, Co-Chairs were reminded of the goal of distributing the package of materials for the Standing Committee meetings on April 15, which would mean sign-off as soon as possible and no later than April 13.

Each set of Co-Chairs provided updates on preparations for their respective meetings

- (a) The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies reported that letters had been sent to all States Parties which are in the process of fulfilling Article 5 obligations, inviting them to provide updates at the Standing Committee's 13-14 June meeting. In addition, they reported that they are attempting to make bilateral contacts with each of these States Parties.
- (b) The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction reported that they too have sent letters to all States Parties which are in the process of fulfilling relevant obligations (i.e., Article 4 obligations). They also indicated that they have set a goal of seeing that by the end of 2005 stockpile destruction will remain an obligation that is relevant for no more than eight States Parties.
- (c) The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration reported that they are convening two workshops (in Latin America and in Africa) prior to their June meeting, with these workshops intended to provide support to 15 of the 24 States Parties which have reported the responsibility for significant numbers of landmine survivors in setting concrete and measurable objectives. They also expressed their hope that, in addition updates from the 24 most affected States Parties, others would engage in a dialogue on assistance and cooperation. In addition, they indicated that they will investigate in greater detail two specific aspects of victim assistance – medical care and economic reintegration.
- (d) The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention reported that, given the wide ranging subject matter covered by the Standing Committee, they had sent letters to all States Parties, encouraging, in particular, participation in June on agenda items that concern Articles 3, 6 and 9.

2. Updates on the activities of the Contact Groups

- (a) The Coordinator of the Resource Mobilisation Contact Group reported that two key areas of follow-up in June concern cost-effectiveness and the role of development actors. With respect to the former, the Coordinator indicated that the Implementation Support Unit, on the Coordinator's behalf, is undertaking research on mine action resource flows. In addition, the *NGO Perspective* is looking at holding a workshop to further investigate matters pertaining to cost effectiveness. With respect to development actors, the Coordinator hoped for further engagement of development banks, including the African Development Bank. As well, Canada indicated that it will host a meeting on the margins of the Standing Committee meetings which will feature discussions on mine action by representatives of the development agencies of the member states of the OECD Development Assistance Committee.
- (b) With respect to the Article 7 Contact Group, it was reported that a letter co-signed by the Contact Group Coordinator the President of the First Review Conference was sent to all States Parties reminding them of their reporting obligations. It was also reported that the Contact Group Coordinator will follow-up with certain delegations in New York in May and that a Contact Group meeting will be held on 15 June.
- (c) With respect to the Universalization Contact Group, it was reported that efforts are underway to prepare for a meeting on 16 June and that Contact Group participants could expect to receive notification from the Coordinator. It was also indicated that the Coordinator seeks a discussion on the ongoing role and impact of the Contact Group.

The Chair reported on universalization efforts that he had undertaken since the last meeting, informing the Coordinating Committee that on the anniversary of the Convention's entry into force on March 1 he wrote to his counterparts from all 50 States not parties to urge them to ratify or accede to the Convention as soon as possible. In addition, he indicated that this was a message that he delivered on the floor of the Conference of Disarmament (CD) on March 3. The Chair expressed his gratitude that so many other States Parties also made remarks in the CD on that day.

3. Update on the Sponsorship Programme

The Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme Coordinator reported that approximately CHF 300,000 was available in the fund and that a deadline of 30 April had been set for eligible States Parties to request support. The Coordinator indicated that Co-Chairs had been asked for their priorities, with the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance indicating that this may be difficult to do given the large number of States Parties with upcoming mine clearance deadlines.

4. Preparations for the 28 November – 2 December 2005 Meeting of the States Parties

Croatia reported that a suitable venue for the Meeting of the States Parties had been found in Zagreb, that 500 hotel rooms had been block-booked, that an opening ceremony will take place on Sunday 27 November, and that a field visit will take place on Saturday 26

November. It also indicated that an informal information meeting will be convened in September.

With respect to the Meeting of the States Parties, both the ICRC and Japan urged that there be a focus on the application of the Nairobi Action Plan.

5. Any other business

The Chair acknowledged that this is the last Coordinating Committee in which Susan Walker of the ICBL would take part in her current function. He expressed his confidence that while Susan may be parting ways from the ICBL she is never going to leave the landmine issue. There was a general sense expressed by the Coordinating Committee that Susan had contributed greatly to the implementation of the Convention, having successfully shared the reality of the landmine issue given her vast field experience with those who have never witnessed on a first-hand basis the devastation caused by anti-personnel mines.

6. Date of the next meeting of the Coordinating Committee

The Chair indicated his intention to convene the next meeting of the Coordinating Committee approximately one week before the meetings of the Standing Committees.

**Attachment #1:
Time allocations for and sequencing of June Standing Committee meetings**

	Monday 13 June	Tuesday 14 June	Wednesday 15 June	Thursday 16 June	Friday 17 June
10:00- 11:30	General Status	Mine Clearance	Stockpile Destruction	Victim Assistance	Victim Assistance
11:30- 13:00	General Status	Mine Clearance	Stockpile Destruction	Victim Assistance	General Status
13:00-15:00	Break for lunch				
15:00- 16:30	Mine Clearance	Mine Clearance	Stockpile Destruction	Victim Assistance	General Status
16:30- 18:00	Mine Clearance	Mine Clearance	Stockpile Destruction	Victim Assistance	General Status