

CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE CONVENTION'S UPCOMING MEETING PROGRAMME

PRESIDENT OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES

13 MAY 2013

(For discussion on 30 May at the meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention)

At its 16 April meeting, the Coordinating Committee discussed a variety of matters concerning the Convention's upcoming meeting programme which all delegations may wish to consider at the 30 May meeting of the General Status and Operation of the Convention.

a. Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties (13MSP):

The 13MSP (a draft concept for which will be presented by the 13SMP President-Designate) would not feature any dramatic change in terms of how recent Meetings of the States Parties have been organized, other than the 13MSP being contained within four days (i.e., 2-5 December 2013), with Friday 6 December 2013 set aside as a preparatory meeting for the Third Review Conference. In addition, the 13MSP President-Designate has proposed that the 13MSP place a relatively greater focus on cooperation and assistance, given the prominence attached to this issue by the Second Review Conference.

b. Third Review Conference preparations:

Mozambique proposes that the Third Review Conference take place from 30 June to 4 July 2014 (with the likelihood of various related activities and an opening ceremony taking place on Sunday 29 June).

A preparatory meeting on 6 December would enable delegations to begin substantive discussions on matters that will need to be considered at the Third Review Conference including:

- i. "the need for and the interval between further Meetings of the States Parties" (and related matters, such as post-Review Conference intersessional work),
- ii. a review of major implementation advances observed and challenges recorded during the period since the Second Review Conference, and
- iii. commitments that the States Parties may wish to consider making to address various challenges during the period following the Third Review Conference.

The President recalled that it is the President-Designate of the Review Conference who is responsible for leading all Review Conference preparations.

The States Parties should consider a second preparatory meeting being held the week of 24 March 2014. This would permit a sufficient gap between the first and second preparatory meetings while still enabling the President-Designate of the Third Review Conference sufficient opportunity to submit documents for the Review Conference in a timely manner.

c. Intersessional Work Programme in 2014:

The short period (i.e., seven months versus the normal 12 months) between the 13MSP and the proposed dates of the Third Review Conference, suggests that duplication would result by staging a third set of meetings within a seven month period. Nevertheless, one aspect of

intersessional work that may still be necessary in 2014 would concern normal practices related to the Article 5 extensions process.

Any intersessional work should take place during the same week as a second preparatory meeting (i.e., the week of 24 March 2014) and efforts should be made to coordinate meeting schedules with other related meetings.

d. Article 5 Analysis Process:

Given the short period between the 13MSP and the proposed dates of the Third Review Conference, States Parties that wish to have requests for mine clearance extensions considered at the Third Review Conference should submit these requests by 15 December 2013.