

Programme

for the Meetings

of the Standing Committees

27-30 May | 2013

Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction



MEETINGS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES 27-30 MAY 2013

PROGRAMME

MONDAY 27 MAY 2013

OPENING OF THE WEEK OF STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

10:00 Opening of the week of meetings

The week of meetings will be opened by the President of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties (12MSP), Ambassador Matjaz Kovacic of Slovenia.

Please note:

- (a) Participants are encouraged to participate actively in discussions on specific topics and to refrain from making statements of a general nature;
- (b) The principle of flexibility will be applied with respect to time allocation (e.g., if one Standing Committee meeting uses less than its allocated time the subsequent Standing Committee meeting will immediately commence);
- (c) States Parties providing updates on implementation are encouraged to provide only new information.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION

10:15 Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs

- Introduction by the Co-Chairs (Bulgaria and New Zealand) on the work of the Standing Committee.

Overview of the general status of implementation: Update on the pursuit of the aims of the *Cartagena Action Plan*

- The President of the 12MSP, Ambassador Matjaz Kovacic, will provide an overview of the pursuit of the aims of the *Cartagena Action Plan*.

Overview of the general status of universalisation
(Cartagena Action Plan: #1-#6)

The *Cartagena Action Plan* recorded the resolve of the States Parties to achieve universal adherence to the Convention and its norms in order to realise the goal of a world free of anti-personnel mines.

- Update by the Coordinator of the Universalisation Contact Group, Belgium.
- Opportunity for States not party to the Convention, which have taken steps towards ratification of, or accession to, the Convention, to provide updates or make announcements regarding the date when they intend to join the Convention.
- Opportunity for States Parties and organisations that have contributed to universalisation efforts to provide updates on their activities.

Compliance
(Cartagena Action Plan: #53)

At the Cartagena Summit, the States Parties agreed that “all States Parties will, in case of alleged or known non-compliance with the Convention, work together with the States Parties concerned to resolve the matter expeditiously in a manner consistent with Article 8.1.”

- Opportunity for updates and an exchange of views on compliance

Article 9: The development and adoption of legislative, administrative and other measures
(Cartagena Action Plan: #59-#61)

At the Second Review Conference, the States Parties recorded that while there has been some progress since the Nairobi Summit in implementing Article 9, over 40 percent of the States Parties have not yet reported that they have legislation in place to give effect to the Convention.

- Presentation on the status of implementation of Article 9.
- Opportunity for updates by those States Parties in the process of developing and adopting legislative, administrative and other measures in accordance with Article 9, and, if relevant, to make their needs for assistance known.

Transparency and the exchange of information
(Cartagena Action Plan: #11, #12, #14, #17, #28, #54, #55)

At the 10MSP, the States Parties considered a paper presented by Belgium, which highlighted the importance of further discussions on a number of matters concerning the Convention’s transparency provisions and the reporting process. In this paper, Belgium indicated that it would like to “engage all States Parties and stakeholder organisations in a discussion to explore possible means of revitalising the Article 7 reporting process, with an

equal focus on the problems of reporting regularity, precision and quality.” At the 12MSP, the meeting “took note of a paper presented by Belgium entitled “Roadmap for a better reporting and exchange of information.”

- Presentation by the Coordinator of the Article 7 Contact Group, Belgium.

Article 3: Updates on plans for and use of mines retained for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques (Cartagena Action Plan: #56-#58)

In the *Cartagena Action Plan*, the States Parties agreed to three action points regarding mines retained for purposes permitted under Article 3 of the Convention.

- Opportunity for those States Parties that have reported mines retained for the purposes permitted in Article 3 to share information on their plans requiring the retention of mines in accordance with Article 3, the actual use of these mines and the results of this use. These updates have been requested in response to the following three questions:
 1. What are the reasons for changes / no changes in quantity and types of mines retained by your State since the Second Review Conference?
 2. What are the purposes for which retained mines have been used and what have been the results of this use, including for example:
 - a. the mine detection, clearance or destruction techniques that have been / are being developed?
 - b. the mine detection, clearance or destruction training that has been carried out?
 - c. the number of personnel trained and to what standard?
 3. What are your State’s plans for the further development of mine detection, clearance or detection techniques and further training which would result in the use of mines retained under Article 3?

13:00 Meeting adjourns until Thursday 30 May, afternoon session

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION

15:00 Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs

- The Co-Chairs (Nigeria and Norway) will set the scene for the work of the Standing Committee through a presentation that recalls salient aspects of the Review and Action Plan adopted in Cartagena and the 12MSP Geneva Progress Report.

Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of implementation
(Cartagena Action Plan: #7-#11)

At the Second Review Conference, it was agreed that “States Parties that have missed their deadlines for Article 4 implementation will comply without delay by destroying all stockpiles and provide a plan to ensure compliance as soon as possible and in strict conformity with relevant safety and environmental standards, including for this purpose relevant legislative measures taken, structures established, committed national resources, assistance needed and committed, and an expected completion date”.

There remain three States Parties – Belarus, Greece and Ukraine – which have missed their deadlines for Article 4 implementation and which as of the 12MSP were still in the process of implementation. In addition, there are two States that recently ratified or acceded to the Convention – Finland and Poland – which have indicated that they have stocks that will need to be destroyed. As well, a third State that recently acceded to the Convention – Somalia – may wish to clarify its status as concerns stockpiles under its jurisdiction or control.

- Opportunity for updates (approximately 7-8 minutes) by States Parties that are in the process of complying with their Article 4 stockpile destruction obligations. These updates have been requested in response to the following three questions:
 1. What is your plan to ensure compliance as soon as possible?
 2. What progress has been made in the implementation of Article 4 since the 12MSP?
 3. What is your expected completion date?
- Opportunity for updates by States Parties and others providing assistance to those States Parties in the process of implementing Article 4.

The destruction of previously unknown stockpiles
(Cartagena Action Plan: #12)

In the *Cartagena Action Plan*, it was agreed that all States Parties will, when previously unknown stockpiles are discovered after stockpile destruction deadlines have passed, report such discoveries in accordance with their obligations under Article 7, and in addition take advantage of other informal means to share such information as soon as possible and destroy these anti-personnel mines as a matter of urgent priority.

At the close of the 12MSP, there were two States Parties – Guinea-Bissau and South Sudan – which had reported previously unknown stockpiled anti-personnel mines but had not yet reported the destruction of these mines. In addition, Côte d’Ivoire reported to the 12MSP that it had destroyed previously unknown stocks and that additional information would be furnished in 2013.

- Opportunity for updates by States Parties on previously unknown stockpiles of anti-personnel mines

Updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the stockpile destruction aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*

- Opportunity for brief updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the stockpile destruction aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*.

Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs

16:00 (Approximate timing) **Meeting ends**

STANDING COMMITTEE ON MINE CLEARANCE

16:00¹ **Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs**

- The Co-Chairs (Mozambique and the Netherlands) will open the meeting by providing an overview of the work of the Standing Committee, reporting on initiatives that they have undertaken and delivering a presentation on the status of the implementation of Article 5.

Updates by States Parties that have been granted extensions on deadlines for implementing Article 5

At Meetings of the States Parties and at the Second Review Conference, it was agreed that those States Parties that have been granted extensions on their deadlines for implementing Article 5 of the Convention would provide updates at meetings of the Standing Committees relative to the commitments they had made in their extension requests and to the decisions taken on their requests.

In particular, the 12MSP endorsed a paper entitled “Reflections on the Article 5 Extension Process” and agreed to encourage States Parties, as appropriate, to implement these recommendations, with these recommendations including the following: “At both meetings of the Standing Committees and formal meetings/conferences, States Parties that have been granted extensions should be requested to provide updates on efforts to implement the plans contained in their requests. Such reports should clearly document progress and challenges relative to what it committed to achieve.”

The following States Parties will therefore be invited to provide such updates: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Eritrea, Mauritania, Peru, Senegal, Tajikistan, Thailand, the United Kingdom, Venezuela, Yemen and Zimbabwe. (Note that the Co-Chairs will call upon States Parties according to deadlines, proceeding from earliest to latest deadline. Note as well that this list does not include States Parties which have

¹ The Standing Committee on Mine Clearance will begin its work immediately following the close of the meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction.

previously been granted extensions and which will be presenting subsequent requests during another agenda item.)

In addition to answering some questions specific to each national context, the Co-Chairs have asked these States Parties to provide updates that respond to the following:

1. What has been accomplished in your State's efforts to implement Article 5, relative to the commitments made in your extension request, since the last report that was provided? How much land has been released through non-technical survey, technical survey or clearance?
 2. Does your State have clarity regarding the remaining state of contamination? How many mined areas containing or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines and what total amount of area remains to be addressed?
 3. Is the demining plan that formed a part of your extension request still being used to guide your clearance activities, and if not, do you have an updated plan that can be shared with States Parties?
 4. Does your State have the resources to implement its plan for Article 5 implementation and, if not, what are your State's needs?
- Updates by States Parties that have been granted extensions on deadlines for implementing Article 5. (Note: After each set of five presentations, the Co-Chairs will provide an opportunity for comments or questions.)

18:00 Meeting adjourns until Tuesday 28 May at 10:00

TUESDAY 28 MAY 2013

STANDING COMMITTEE ON MINE CLEARANCE

10:00 Updates by States Parties that have been granted extensions on deadlines for implementing Article 5

- Continued from the previous day's session

Updates by States Parties that have submitted requests in 2013

By the time of the meeting of the Standing Committee, it is anticipated that five States Parties – Chad, Mozambique, Serbia, Sudan and Turkey – will have submitted requests for extensions for consideration at the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties (13MSP). In addition, it is anticipated that two States Parties which have reported areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines original or extended deadlines have passed – Germany and Niger – will have submitted requests in accordance with commitments made at the 12MSP. As well, by the time of the meeting of the Standing Committee, the process of

analysing requests, agreed to at the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties, will have commenced.

- Presentation by the President of the 12MSP on the status of requests received and the analysis of them.
- Opportunity for States Parties that have submitted requests to share highlights of their requests with the Standing Committee. These States Parties should concisely address the following questions:
 1. What has been accomplished since entry into force in terms of the number of mined areas and total area that has been cleared or released?
 2. What remains to be done? How many mined areas containing or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines and what total amount of area remains to be addressed? If your State does not have clarity regarding the remaining state of contamination, what is it doing to acquire such clarity?
 3. What is your State's plan to address the remaining implementation challenge? What is your State's proposed time-frame for completion of implementation?
 4. Does your State have the resources to implement the plan in your State's Article 5 extension request and, if not, what are your State's needs?

13:00 Meeting adjourns

15:00 Updates by other States Parties in the process of implementing Article 5

In addition to the States Parties that have been granted extension requests or that have submitted requests for consideration by the 13MSP, as of the close of the 12MSP, the following States Parties were still proceeding with implementation according to their original Article 5 deadlines: Bhutan, Ethiopia, Iraq, and South Sudan.

As well, in addition to Germany and Niger, the following States Parties, after original or extended deadlines have passed, have reported areas known or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines: Hungary and Jordan.

- Opportunity for updates by those States Parties which have indicated that they are in the process of fulfilling obligations under Article 5 of the Convention. These States Parties should concisely address the following questions:
 1. What has been accomplished in your State's efforts to implement Article 5 since the last report was provided?
 2. What remains to be done? How many mined areas containing or suspected to contain anti-personnel mines and what total amount of area remains to be addressed? If your State does not have clarity regarding the remaining state of contamination, what is it doing to acquire such clarity?

3. What is your State's plan to address the remaining implementation challenge? What is the prospective end-date for completion of implementation?
4. Does your State have the resources to implement its plan for Article 5 implementation and, if not, what are your State's needs?

Updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the mine clearance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*

- Update on developments with regard to the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS).
- Update by the Coordinator of the Article 7 Contact Group on Article 5 reporting.
- The Co-Chairs will provide an opportunity for brief updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the mine clearance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*.

Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs

18:00 **Meeting ends**

WEDNESDAY 29 MAY 2013

STANDING COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE

10:00 **Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs**

The Co-Chairs (Austria and Colombia) will set the scene for the work of the Standing Committee through a presentation that recalls salient aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan* and the 12MSP Geneva Progress Report.

Updates from relevant States Parties on challenges and work that remains in applying the victim assistance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan* at the national level

The Co-Chairs will provide an opportunity for updates (maximum 7-8 minutes) to be provided by those States Parties that have indicated that they hold the responsibility to provide for the well-being of significant numbers of landmine survivors.

- Opportunity for updates by those States Parties that have indicated that they hold the responsibility to provide for the well-being of significant numbers of landmine survivors. These States Parties have been asked to respond to the following two questions:

1. What further progress has your State made since its last update in applying the victim assistance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*?
2. What (specific and measurable) objectives in applying the victim assistance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan* does your State still anticipate meeting between now and the Third Review Conference in 2014?

13:00 Meeting adjourns

15:00 Updates from relevant States Parties on challenges and work that remains in applying the victim assistance aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan at the national level (continued)

- Opportunity for updates by those States Parties that have indicated that they hold the responsibility to provide for the well-being of significant numbers of landmine survivors (continued)

Updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the victim assistance aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan

- The Co-Chairs will provide an opportunity for brief updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the victim assistance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*.

Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs

18:00 Meeting ends

THURSDAY 30 MAY 2013

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES, COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

10:00 Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs

- The Co-Chairs (Ecuador and Thailand) will open the meeting by recalling the past efforts of the Standing Committee and highlighting areas where follow up may be of use to enhancing cooperation and assistance under the Convention. This will include an update on the “platform for partnerships” – an initiative of the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Resources, Cooperation and Assistance in 2012 which the 12MSP welcomed and encouraged States Parties to make use of.

Trust funds to support implementation

At the 2012 meeting of the Standing Committee, the ISU, at the request of the Co-Chairs, presented a paper intended to provide an overview of existing funding models, including a variety of trust funds already in existence, and to highlight options for States Parties to consider regarding the pros and cons of existing or possible new funding mechanisms. One of the trust funds mentioned was the *UN Partnership to promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Multi-Donor Trust Fund*, which is often referred to as the CRPD Trust Fund. To follow-up on last year's discussion on trust funds in general, the Co-Chairs will focus attention on the potential of the CRPD Trust Fund to support the aims of the Convention.

- Presentation on the CRPD Trust Fund

United Nations Mine Action Strategy

The Convention states that assistance for implementation may be provided inter alia through the United Nations system. In December, the United Nations finalized a new six-year Mine Action Strategy. Given the importance to many States Parties of the role played by the United Nations in assistance for mine action, the UN has been asked to highlight how its new strategy can support cooperation and assistance under the Convention.

- Presentation on the UN Mine Action Strategy

The Bangkok Symposium on Cooperation and Assistance: Building Synergy towards Effective Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Implementation

The Cartagena Summit placed a high priority on enhancing international cooperation and assistance. In 2011, the 10MSP President, (the inaugural Chair of the Standing Committee on Resources, Cooperation and Assistance), convened a symposium in Tirana, which explored in greater depth some of the key matters concerning the victim assistance portion of the cooperation and assistance agenda. With a view to continuing to ensure progress and results in cooperation and assistance and to maintaining coherence as concerns multifaceted efforts underway, Thailand, in its continuing role as Co-Chair of the Standing Committee will convene a symposium on cooperation and assistance in Bangkok in 2013.

- Briefing on the Bangkok Symposium by Co-Chair (Thailand)

Updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the cooperation and assistance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*

- The Co-Chairs will provide an opportunity for brief updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of relevant aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*.

Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs

13:00 Meeting ends

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION

15:00 Article 3: Updates on plans for and use of mines retained for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques (continued) (Cartagena Action Plan: #56-#58)

- Opportunity for those States Parties that have reported mines retained for the purposes permitted in Article 3 to share information on their plans requiring the retention of mines in accordance with Article 3, the actual use of these mines and the results of this use.

Implementation Support Unit: update (Cartagena Action Plan: #64, #66)

In 2010, in endorsing the final report of the ISU Task Force, the 10MSP adopted the “Directive from the States Parties to the ISU”. This “Directive” indicates inter alia that the ISU shall “report in written form as well as orally on the activities, functioning and finances of the ISU to each Meeting of the States Parties or Review Conference and to informal meetings under the Convention as appropriate”.

- Director of the ISU

Preparations for the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties and other upcoming meetings

At the 12MSP, the States Parties mandated the President to continue consultations with States Parties with a view to proposing, by the end of February 2013, a candidate to be designated to preside over the Thirteenth Meeting. On 1 March, the President informed the States Parties of his proposal that Ambassador Boudjemâa Delmi of Algeria be designated to preside over the 13MSP, which it has been agreed will be held in Geneva the week of 2 December 2013, and that the 13MSP accept the offer of Belgium to preside over the 14MSP, with these decisions to be taken without prejudice to both any decisions of the Third Review Conference regarding its mandate “to consider the need for and the interval between further Meetings of the States Parties” and any future ways and means that the States Parties may wish to use to designate future presidencies.

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. These matters are outlined a paper prepared by the 12MSP President entitled “Considerations regarding the Convention’s upcoming meeting programme.”

The final report of the 12MSP “noted, with appreciation, the offer made by Mozambique to host and preside over the Third Review Conference in 2014.” Since that time, Mozambique has commenced with preparations for the Third Review Conference, to take place from 30 June to 4 July 2014 in Maputo and to be preceded by related activities on 29 June. Mozambique has proposed that His Excellency Henrique Banze, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mozambique, be designated to preside over the Third Review Conference.

- Presentation by the 12MSP President with respect to considerations regarding the Convention's upcoming meeting programme
- Presentation by the President-Designate of the 13MSP
- Presentation by the Third Review Conference President-Designate
- Update provided by the Secretary-General-Designate of the 13MSP, the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs and the ISU on 13MSP organizational matters

Updates on other implementation mechanisms

- Update by the Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme, Australia
- Update by the Chair of the Coordinating Committee
- Updates (if desired) by the Coordinators of the Contact Groups

The practical implementation of the various other provisions of the Convention

- An opportunity for updates or views to be shared on other provisions of the Convention not otherwise covered by this or other Standing Committees.

Any other business

Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs

18:00 Meeting ends

(Programme revised 22 May 2013)