



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

INTERSESSIONAL WORK PROGRAMME 2002 – 2003

Geneva, 27 September 2002

To: The Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva and New York of the States Parties to the Convention

The Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva and New York of the States not Parties to the Convention

Interested non-governmental and international organizations

Excellencies, Distinguished Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to remind you that meetings of the Standing Committees established by the States Parties to the Convention will take place in Geneva **3 to 7 February 2003 and 12 to 16 May 2003**.

As has been the practice, in December the President of the Fourth Meeting of the States Parties and the Director of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining will issue an invitation to you for the February meetings along with agendas and background information to assist you in preparing for these meetings. However, at this time I would like to take this opportunity to bring to your attention the following matters:

- The Coordinating Committee has applied the principle of flexibility with respect to the format of Standing Committee meetings, and their sequencing and respective time allocations. The result of the Coordinating Committee's considerations is a preliminary summary schedule for the week of meetings in February. (See attached.)
- Participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses and make their own arrangements. In this regard, **Standing Committee participants are advised to make hotel reservations in Geneva as soon as possible**. This is especially relevant for the 12-16 May meetings when a series of major events in Geneva will mean that hotel space will be in high demand.
- Through a sponsorship programme that is funded on a voluntary basis by a group of donor States, some financial support is available to a limited number of State participants requiring support, subject to the approval of the donors. While the deadline for applications for sponsorship is 10 January 2003, early requests for sponsorship are greatly appreciated. For further information, please contact Ms. Catherine Borrero, tel.: 41-22-906-1685, fax: 41-22-906-1690, e-mail: c.borrero@gichd.ch.

Should you have any questions about the Intersessional Work Programme, please feel free to contact me (email: k.brinkert@gichd.ch; Tel: 41-22-906-1637).

Sincerely yours,

Kerry Brinkert
Manager, Implementation Support Unit
Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining

Encl.: Summary of the Schedule of Standing Committee Meetings

**Summary of the Schedule of Standing Committee Meetings
3-7 February 2003**

3 February	4 February	5 February	6 February	7 February
New Participants Briefing				
General Status and Operation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General overview of implementation • Universalization • Resources to implement the Convention • General operations of the Convention • Update on President's Consultations 	Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration	Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies	Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction	General Status and Operation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions on various Articles of the Convention and other matters

Notes:

- Subject to change.
- The Co-Chairs will apply the principle of flexibility in the allocation of time. Should one or more committees require more / less time, adjustments may be made during the week of Standing Committee meetings.