



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

SIXTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES

Informal meeting to discuss preparations for the Sixth Meeting of the States Parties

Friday 23 September, 10:00 – 13:00
World Meteorological Organization Building, Salle A
7bis Avenue de la Paix, Geneva

Agenda

1. Actions for consideration by the States Parties at the Sixth Meeting

- a. Comments on the draft Zagreb Progress Report
- b. Dates and location for meetings in 2006
- c. Appointment of new Co-Rapporteurs
- d. Proposed amendments to the Article 7 reporting format
(Proposal by Argentina and Chile)
- e. Declaration
- f. Other possible actions

2. Review of the 6MSP programme

- Austria and Croatia

3. Updates on organizational matters

- a. Registration procedures
 - Enrique Roman-Morey, Executive Secretary of the Sixth Meeting of the States Parties
- b. Other organizational matters (e.g., visas, programme of side events, hotel accommodation in Zagreb, etc.)
 - Croatia

Actions for consideration by the States Parties at the Sixth Meeting of the States Parties (6MSP)

Possible action	Comments / Background
<p>Zagreb Progress Report: The States Parties may wish to welcome the Zagreb Progress Report as a practical means to measure progress in the application of the Nairobi Action Plan since the First Review Conference and to identify priority areas of work for the period between the Sixth and Seventh Meetings of the States Parties.</p>	<p>On 17 June 2005 at the meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, Austria and Croatia suggested that given the realities that exist post-Review Conference, the documentation prepared for the 6MSP should take into account the Nairobi Action Plan. In particular, it was proposed that a Zagreb Progress Report be prepared which would take stock of the progress achieved in implementing the Nairobi Action Plan and suggest priorities for the year ahead. It was further proposed that such a paper and the development of the document should be carried out in a transparent, inclusive and interactive manner. On 23 June 2005, Austria and Croatia wrote to all States Parties and interested organizations to solicit input and since that time have work with the support of the Coordinating Committee to prepare a preliminary draft for comments by interested actors.</p>
<p>Convention meetings in 2006: In keeping with the decisions of the First Review Conference and certain realities concerning the calendar of meetings in Geneva in 2006, it is proposed that Meetings of the Standing Committees take place the week of 8-12 May 2006 and that the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties take place the week of 18-22 September 2006 in Geneva.</p>	<p>At the First Review Conference, the States Parties agreed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “to hold annually, until the Second Review Conference, a Meeting of the States Parties which will regularly take place in the second half of the year, in Geneva or, when possible or appropriate, in a mine-affected country” ▪ “to convene annually, until 2009, informal intersessional meetings of the Standing Committees to be held in Geneva in the first half of the year, for a duration of up to five days;” ▪ “As a general rule, however not excluding exceptions for specific reasons, intersessional meetings of the Standing Committees would take place in February / March and the annual Meetings of the States Parties in September.” <p>Given specific reasons such as the late date in 2005 of the Meeting of the States Parties, the availability of space, and the calendar of meetings in Geneva – including the scheduling of disarmament meetings and other key meetings such as the Commission on Human Rights – the earliest reasonable time in 2006 when meetings of the Standing Committees could be held is the week of May 8. Regarding the meeting of the States Parties, the meeting can indeed take place in September at a time that does not conflict with proposed dates for CCW or CD meetings and prior to the commencement of the work of the UNGA’s First Committee.</p>
<p>New Co-Rapporteurs: It is proposed that eight (8) States Parties be selected to serve as Co-Rapporteurs between the end of the Sixth and the end of the Seventh Meetings of the States Parties.</p>	<p>At the 13 / 17 June 2005 meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, the Co-Chairs reminded States Parties that: it has been the practice of States Parties to take decisions regarding Standing Committee Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs at the annual Meetings of the States Parties; the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention have traditionally undertaken the task of consulting and identifying a list of nominees to serve as Co-Rapporteurs; and, that in undertaking these consultations Co-Chairs have kept in mind principles that have become customary to States Parties – such as ensuring a regional balance, representation of mine affected and non-mine-affected State Parties, and the need for continuity and at the same time rotation.</p>

	<p>In this regard, the Co-Chairs informed the States Parties of their intention to again proceed in this manner with a view to developing a list of prospective Co-Rapporteurs for presentation to the States Parties in the coming months. The Co-Chairs asked that interested States Parties express their interest to one of them as soon as possible. In addition, they reminded those States Parties that were interested in serving as Co-Rapporteurs between the Sixth and the Seventh Meetings of the States Parties that if past practice prevailed they would be making a two-year commitment to responsibilities, as after serving one year as Co-Rapporteurs, States Parties were subsequently elected to serve as the Co-Chairs of their respective Standing Committees.</p>
<p>Article 7 Reporting Format: Argentina and Chile have proposed that the Article 7 reporting format be amended to provide States Parties with a means to volunteer information on the intended and actual use of anti-personnel mines retained for permitted purposes.</p>	<p>At the 13 / 17 June 2005 meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, Argentina and Chile informed the States Parties of their proposal to see that the Article 7 reporting format would be amended to, as is suggested by Action #54 of the <i>Nairobi Action Plan</i>, “provide information on the plans requiring the retention of mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques and report on the actual use of retained mines and the results of such use.”</p>
<p>Declaration: The States Parties may wish to adopt a political declaration.</p>	<p>At each Meeting of the States Parties since 1999, the States Parties have adopted a political declaration. At the 13 / 17 June 2005 meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, Austria and Croatia suggested that a Declaration developed for consideration for adoption by the States Parties at the 6MSP should reaffirm the Nairobi Declaration and Nairobi Action Plan, be congruent with their high standards and with any priorities identified in a Zagreb Progress Report, and be concise – if possible, no more than one page. A draft of the declaration will be circulated as soon as possible.</p>
<p>President-designate of the 7MSP: The States Parties may wish to designate the President of the next Meeting of the States Parties.</p>	<p>Since the Second Meeting of the States Parties in 2000, the States Parties have either designated the subsequent meeting’s President or at least have agreed to a host for the subsequent meeting with the assumption being that a representative of the host country would preside over the subsequent meeting.</p>