

**Final Report of the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties to  
the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production  
and Transfer of  
Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction**

**18-22 September 2006**

**Excerpts\***

19. At its third through eighth plenary sessions, the meeting considered the general status and operation of the Convention, reviewing progress made and challenges that remain in the pursuit of the Convention's aims and in the application of the Nairobi Action Plan 2005-2009. In this regard, the meeting **warmly welcomed the Geneva Progress Report**, as contained in Part II of this report, as an important means to support the application of the *Nairobi Action Plan* by measuring progress made during the period 2 December 2005 to 22 September 2006 and highlighting priority areas of work for the States Parties, the Co-Chairs and the Convention's President in the period between the Seventh and the Eighth Meetings of the States Parties.

26. At its final plenary meeting, pursuant to consultations undertaken by the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, the meeting agreed to set the dates of the **2007 meetings of the Standing Committees** from **23-27 April** and identified the following States Parties as the Standing Committee **Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs** until the end of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties:

- (i) Mine Clearance, Mine-Risk Education and Mine-Action Technologies: Chile and Norway (Co-Chairs); Canada and Peru (Co-Rapporteurs);
- (ii) Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration: Austria and Sudan (Co-Chairs); Cambodia and New Zealand (Co-Rapporteurs);
- (iii) Stockpile Destruction: Algeria and Estonia (Co-Chairs); Lithuania and Serbia (Co-Rapporteurs);
- (iv) General Status and Operation of the Convention: Argentina and Italy (Co-Chairs); Germany and Kenya (Co-Rapporteurs).

27. Also at its final plenary session, the States Parties recalled the obligations set out in Article 5 of the Convention and discussed **a process for the preparation, submission and consideration of requests for extension to Article 5 deadlines** as outlined in document APLC/MSP.7/2006/L.3. The States Parties recalled their commitment in *Nairobi Action Plan* Action #27 to strive to ensure that few, if any States Parties, would feel compelled to request an extension. They further recalled

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\* This unofficial document contains key excerpts from the final report of the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties (7MSP).

that the Convention allows States Parties to seek an extension to their mine destruction deadline should they be unable to meet it. It was acknowledged that despite their best efforts, it was possible that some States Parties would seek an extension to their deadlines. In view of this, the States Parties decided:

- (i) to reaffirm their obligation to ensure the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention and as reflected in Nairobi Action Plan Action #27;
- (ii) to establish a process for the preparation, submission and consideration of requests for extension to Article 5 deadlines;
- (iii) that requesting States Parties are encouraged, as necessary, to seek assistance from the Implementation Support Unit in the preparation of their requests;
- (iv) that States Parties in a position to do so should assist States Parties to fulfil their Article 5 obligations in accordance with Article 6 paragraph 4 of the Convention, and recall the relevance of Nairobi Action Plan #44 in this regard;
- (v) to work further on the voluntary template contained in APLC/MSP.7/2006/L.4, proposed as the basis to facilitate preparation and assessment of extension requests, with a view to its finalization by the conclusion of the 2007 intersessional meetings, so to enable its voluntary implementation until its formal adoption at the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties.
- (vi) to strongly encourage States Parties seeking Article 5 extensions to append their national demining plans to their extension requests;
- (vii) to encourage States Parties seeking Article 5 extensions to submit their request to the President no fewer than nine months before the Meeting of the States Parties or Review Conference at which the decision on the request would need to be taken;
- (viii) that the President, upon receipt of an extension request, should inform the States Parties of its lodgement and make it openly available, in keeping with the Convention's practice of transparency;
- (ix) that the President and the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs of the Standing Committees, jointly prepare an analysis of the request indicating, *inter alia*: clarifications of facts sought and received from the requesting State; demining plans for the extension period; resource and assistance needs and gaps;

- (x) that, in preparing the analysis, the President and the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs of the Standing Committees and the requesting States Party should cooperate fully to clarify issues and identify needs;
- (xi) that in preparing the analysis, the President, Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs, in close consultation with the requesting state, should, where appropriate, draw on expert mine clearance, legal and diplomatic advice, using the ISU to provide support;
- (xii) that the President, acting on behalf of the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs, should submit the analysis to the States Parties well before the MSP or Review Conference preceding the requesting State's deadline.
- (xiii) to encourage all States Parties in a position to do so to provide additional, ear-marked funds to the ISU Trust Fund to cover costs related to supporting the Article 5 extensions process.

The States Parties also decided to adopt the model declaration in document APLC/MSP.7/2006/L.5, as contained in annex IV and as orally amended, as a voluntary means to report completion of Article 5 obligations.

28. Also at its final plenary session, in recalling the offer made by Jordan at the Sixth Meeting of the States Parties to host and preside over the **Eighth Meeting of the States Parties**, the meeting agreed to designate His Royal Highness Prince Mired Raad Zeid of Jordan President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties (8MSP) and decided to hold the 8MSP in **Jordan** the week of **18-22 November 2007**.

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For further information please see <http://www.gichd.ch/645.0.html>