

INITIAL IDEAS CONCERNING, AND SUGGESTED AGENDA AND PROGRAMME FOR, THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES

**President-Designate (Australia)
Revised 11 May 2006**

Priorities for 7MSP

The Seventh Meeting of States Parties (7MSP) represents another important milestone in measuring States Parties' progress in implementing the Mine Ban Treaty. The meeting provides an opportunity to reflect on steps taken since the Sixth Meeting of the States Parties (6MSP) to apply the Nairobi Action Plan, as well as to discuss upcoming challenges, as we move towards critical deadlines and the Second Review Conference.

At the 7MSP, Australia would like to place an ever greater focus on the biggest challenges facing the Convention, namely implementing mine clearance obligations and providing assistance to victims. To this end, we propose to reorder the agenda and work program accordingly (see attached documents).

In planning thematic discussions on these two issues, Australia will work closely with Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs of the relevant Standing Committees, to follow-up and build on the work undertaken at the May Intersessionals. With regard to mine clearance, Australia will support efforts of mine affected and donor countries to ensure that mine clearance deadlines are met. On the question of victim assistance, we will support efforts to build comprehensive national plans in the twenty-four countries with the largest number of survivors. Australia encourages the active participation of survivors at the 7MSP.

As an outcome of the meeting, Australia will produce a short 'Geneva 2006 Progress Report', which will capture the progress made in implementation since the 6MSP.

Organisation of meeting

The amount of time actually used at the 6MSP demonstrates that it is possible for the 7MSP to stage an opening ceremony the morning of the first day of the meeting rather than the night before. We therefore plan to hold the opening ceremony on Monday 18 September, followed immediately with the official opening of the meeting.

A successful feature of the Zagreb 6MSP was the decreased amount of time used for general statements relative to previous MSPs. At the 7MSP, States Parties and observers will again be discouraged from delivering statements of a general nature. States Parties and observers wishing to exercise their right to speak during a general exchange of views should limit their statements to five minutes. Australia will also follow the example of the 6MSP and institute a rolling list of speakers for the entire conference.

We propose that we take advantage of the time allocated for the 7MSP to conduct informal and interactive discussions on key thematic issues during the week. A 3-hour time-block would be set aside for this purpose. This could be used to discuss questions raised in the May Intersessionals and pressing issues facing the Convention.

Geneva, 18-22 September 2006
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Official opening of the meeting
2. Election of the President
3. Brief messages delivered by or on behalf of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Jody Williams, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the President of the Council of the Foundation of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining and the Secretary General of the United Nations.
4. Adoption of the agenda
5. Adoption of the rules of procedure
6. Adoption of the budget
7. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the meeting and of other officers
8. Confirmation of the Secretary-General of the meeting
9. Organization of work
10. General exchange of views
11. Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention
 - (a) Clearing mined areas
 - (b) Assisting the victims
 - (c) Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines
 - (d) Universalizing the Convention
 - (e) Other matters essential for achieving the Convention's aims
 - i. Cooperation and assistance
 - ii. Transparency and the exchange of information
 - iii. Preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance.
 - iv. Implementation Support
12. Informal discussions on matters concerning the implementation of Article 5
13. Consideration of matters arising from / in the context of reports submitted under Article 7
14. Consideration of requests submitted under Article 5
15. Consideration of requests submitted under Article 8
16. Date, duration and location of the next Meeting of the States Parties

17. Any other business
18. Consideration and adoption of the final document
19. Closure of the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties

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

11 May 2006

Geneva, 18-22 September 2006
Item 8 of the provisional agenda

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK

Monday 18 September

10:00 – 11:00

Opening ceremony

11:00 – 13:00

1. Official opening of the meeting
2. Election of the President
3. Brief messages delivered by or on behalf of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Jody Williams, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the President of the Council of the Foundation of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining and the Secretary General of the United Nations.
4. Adoption of the agenda
5. Adoption of the rules of procedure
6. Adoption of the budget
7. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the meeting and of other officers
8. Confirmation of the Secretary-General of the meeting
9. Organization of work
10. General exchange of views¹

¹ States Parties and observers are encouraged to refrain from making general statements but rather provide updates on implementation on thematic matters indicated in agenda item 10. In addition, if they wish, delegations can distribute written statements rather than deliver oral statements.

15:00 – 18:00

10. General exchange of views (continued)

Tuesday 19 September

10:00 – 13:00

11. Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention

- (a) Clearing mined areas

15:00 – 18:00

11. Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)

- (a) Clearing mined areas
- (b) Assisting the victims

Wednesday 20 September

10:00 – 13:00

11. Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)

- (b) Assisting the victims

15:00 – 18:00

12. Informal discussions on matters concerning the implementation of Article 5

Thursday 21 September

10:00 – 13:00

11. Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)

- (c) Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines

11. Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)

- (d) Universalizing the Convention

15:00 – 18:00

11. Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)

- (e) Other matters essential for achieving the Convention's aims
 - i. Cooperation and assistance
 - ii. Transparency and the exchange of information

Friday 22 September

10:00 – 13:00

11. Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention (continued)

- (e) Other matters essential for achieving the Convention's aims
 - iii. Preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance.
 - iv. Implementation Support

13. Consideration of matters arising from / in the context of reports submitted under Article 7

14. Consideration of requests submitted under Article 5

15. Consideration of requests submitted under Article 8

15:00 – 18:00

16. Date, duration and location of the next Meeting of the States Parties

17. Any other business

18. Consideration and adoption of the final document

19. Closure of the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties