



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

SEVENTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES

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

Monday 17 July 2006, 15:00 – 18:00
World Meteorological Organization Building, Salle A
7bis Avenue de la Paix, Geneva

Agenda

1. Actions for consideration by the States Parties at the Seventh Meeting
 - a. Comments on the draft Geneva Progress Report
 - b. Views with respect to the Article 5 extension process
 - c. Dates and locations for meetings in 2007
 - d. Appointment of new Co-Rapporteurs
 - e. Other possible actions
2. Review of the 7MSP programme
3. Updates on organizational matters
 - a. Secretary-General-Designate
 - b. Executive Secretary

Actions for consideration by the States Parties at the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties (7MSP)

Possible action	Comments / Background
<p>Geneva Progress Report: The States Parties may wish to welcome the Geneva Progress Report as a practical means to measure progress in the application of the Nairobi Action Plan since the 6MSP and to identify priority areas of work for the period between the 7MSP and the 8MSP.</p>	<p>At the 6MSP, the States Parties “warmly welcomed the Zagreb Progress Report (...) as an important means to support the application of the <i>Nairobi Action Plan</i> by measuring progress made during the period 3 December 2004 to 2 December 2005 and highlighting priority areas of work for the States Parties, the Co-Chairs and the Convention’s President in the period between the Sixth and the Seventh Meetings of the States Parties.” In the Zagreb Progress Report it was noted that such a document “could be considered as the first in a series of annual progress reports prepared by the States Parties in advance of the 2009 Second Review Conference.”</p>
<p>Article 5 extension request process: The States Parties may wish to take various decisions or draw conclusions about processes and mechanisms to assist them in preparing and considering requests for extensions submitted in accordance with Article 5.</p>	<p>At the May meeting of the Standing Committee, the Co-Chairs introduced the paper entitled <i>Towards Completion: Implementing Article 5</i>, which they had prepared with the Co-Rapporteurs. The purpose of the paper was to focus discussion on various aspects of the implementation of Article 5, suggesting that a temporal and efficient approach is required with actions prioritised and sequenced within the framework of the coming three Meetings of the States Parties (MSPs) and subsequent Intersessional meetings. The Co-Chairs noted that while the focus for the upcoming MSPs should be on compliance, there is also need to agree on a review process for possible requests for extension of Article 5 deadlines. The Co-Chairs concluded the discussion at the Standing Committee meeting indicating that they will work closely with their Co-Rapporteurs and the President-Designate to address matters raised during discussion. The Co-Chairs invited written comments and stressed, as many Standing Committee participants did, the need to make the fullest use of the period between the Standing Committee meeting and the 7MSP.</p>
<p>Convention meetings in 2007: It is proposed that meetings of the Standing Committees take place the week of 23-27 April 2007 in Geneva and that the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties (8MSP) take place the week of 18-22 November 2007 in Jordan, and, that [...] of Jordan be designated President of the 8MSP.</p>	<p>On 12 May at the meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, the Co-Chairs reminded delegates that in Nairobi it was agreed “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,” and, that in Zagreb, the States Parties “warmly welcomed the offer made by Jordan to host and preside over the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties in 2007.”</p> <p>In this regard, the Co-Chairs recalled that in September the States Parties will have to formalize the decision of the date and location of the 8MSP, with the week of November 18 to 22, 2007 having been put forward by Jordan taking into account the timing of significant religious and national holidays, conflicts in the disarmament calendar, and the decisions of the First Review Conference.</p> <p>In addition, the Co-Chairs reminded the Standing Committee that in Nairobi the States Parties agreed “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” and that hence, at the 7MSP, the States Parties will have to take</p>

	<p>decisions regarding the dates for meetings of the Standing Committees in 2007. The week of 23-27 April is being proposed because it takes into account the decisions of the First Review Conference, a possible 14-month gap between the 7MSP and 8MSP, conflicts in meeting calendar in Geneva, the availability of space at the WMO Building, and how close these dates are to the 30 April deadline for submitting transparency reports.</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 Seventh and Eighth Meetings of the States Parties.</p>	<p>At the May 2006 meeting the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Conventin, the Co-Chairs indicated that, in keeping with established practice, they would undertake the task of consulting with a view to identifying a list of nominees to serve as Co-Rapporteurs, keeping in mind principles like ensuring a regional balance, a balance between mine-affected and other State Parties, and a balance between the need for rotation and the need for continuity. In this regard, the Co-Chairs asked interested States Parties to express their interest to one of the Co-Chairs as soon as possible in order that they could develop a list of prospective Co-Rapporteurs for presentation to the States Parties in coming months.</p>