



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**

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15 June 2006

To: The Permanent Missions to the United Nations  
(Geneva) of the States Parties to the Convention

Relevant international and non-governmental  
organizations

Dear friends,

It was my pleasure to address you for the first time on 12 May 2006 in my capacity as President-Designate of the 18-22 September 2006 Seventh Meeting of the States Parties (7MSP). I was pleased to have had the opportunity to share with you initial ideas concerning the 7MSP and I was equally grateful to obtain a sense from you that we are proceeding in a manner that is to your liking.

In keeping with the Convention's culture of transparency and inclusiveness, it is important for me to seek your input on substantive preparations for the 7MSP. It was for this reason that I had indicated in May that I would convene an informal meeting on 17 July in Geneva. At this time, I would like to confirm my intention to proceed with such a meeting, which will take place as follows:

**Informal meeting to discuss 7MSP preparations**  
**Monday 17 July – 15:00-18:00**  
**World Meteorological Organization (WMO / OMM) Building, Salle A**

My hope is that at this informal meeting you will seize the opportunity to provide me with input on the two main substantive matters to be discussed at the 7MSP. These are:

- A draft *Geneva Progress Report* covering the period between the 6MSP and the 7MSP, and,
- Matters flowing from the discussion that took place in May on the Article 5 extension process.

To assist you in providing input, I will distribute to you in coming weeks an initial draft progress report and a paper summarizing the range of ideas that have been brought to our attention regarding the Article 5 extension process. While the meeting on 17 July is available for you to share views, I would also encourage you to forward to me in advance of 17 July any written comments you may have, particularly in response to the discussion paper on the Article 5 extension process which was presented on 11 May by the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies. (This paper can be found on the web site of the GICHD or obtained by emailing the Implementation Support Unit at [isu@gichd.ch](mailto:isu@gichd.ch)).

I look forward to seeing you on 17 July.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Millar  
President-Designate of the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties

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