



## MEETINGS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES 21-25 JUNE 2010

### PROGRAMME

#### **MONDAY 21 JUNE 2010**

##### **Opening of the week of Standing Committee meetings**

###### **10:00 Opening of the week of meetings**

The week of meetings will be opened by the President of the Second Review Conference, Ambassador Susan Eckey of Norway, and by the Director of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, Ambassador Stephan Husy.

Please note: (a) Participants are encouraged to participate actively in discussions on specific topics and to refrain from making statements of a general nature. (b) The principle of flexibility will be applied with respect to time allocation (e.g., if one Standing Committee meeting uses less than its allocated time the subsequent Standing Committee meeting could immediately commence). (c) States Parties providing updates on implementation are encouraged to provide only new information.

##### **Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention**

###### **10:15 Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs**

- Introduction by the Co-Chairs on the work of the Standing Committee.

###### **Overview of the general status of implementation: Update on the pursuit of the aims of the Cartagena Action Plan**

- The President of the Second Review Conference, Ambassador Susan Eckey of Norway, will provide an overview of the pursuit of the aims of the *Cartagena Action Plan*.

###### **Evaluation of the Implementation Support Unit**

At the Second Review Conference, the States Parties endorsed the President's paper on the establishment of an open ended task force with a mandate to develop terms of reference for an evaluation of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU).

- The President of the Second Review Conference and Chair of the ISU Task Force, Ambassador Susan Ekey of Norway, will present a preliminary status report on the evaluation of the ISU.
- Discussion.

**Update on the activities and finances of the Implementation Support Unit**  
**(Cartagena Action Plan: #64, #66)**

In the *Cartagena Action Plan*, the States Parties agreed to recognise the essential role of the ISU and that those States Parties in a position to do so will provide necessary financial resources for the effective operation of the ISU.

- Presentation by the Director of the ISU.
- Discussion.

**Overview of the general status of universalisation**  
**(Cartagena Action Plan: #1-#6)**

The *Cartagena Action Plan* recorded the resolve of the States Parties to achieve universal adherence to the Convention and its norms in order to realise the goal of a world free of anti-personnel mines.

- Presentation by the Coordinator of the Universalisation Contact Group, Canada.
- Update by the President's Special Envoy on the Universalisation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, His Royal Highness Prince Mired Raad Al-Hussein of Jordan.
- Opportunity for States not parties that have taken steps towards ratification of, or accession to, the Convention to provide updates or make announcements regarding the date when they intend to join the Convention.
- Opportunity for States Parties and organisations that have contributed to universalisation efforts to provide updates on their activities.

**Transparency and the exchange of information**  
**(Cartagena Action Plan: #11, #12, #14, #17, #28, #54, #55)**

At the Second Review Conference, the States Parties agreed that renewed attention will need to be given to the ongoing fulfilment of transparency obligations and that effective informal exchanges of information will be equally crucial.

- Presentation by the Coordinator of the Article 7 Contact Group, Belgium.
- Opportunity for States Parties and others to provide updates on the application of actions in the *Cartagena Action Plan*.

**Article 9: The development and adoption of legislative, administrative and other measures**  
**(Cartagena Action Plan: #59-#61)**

At the Second Review Conference, the States Parties recorded that while there has been some progress since the Nairobi Summit in implementing Article 9, over 40 percent of the States Parties have not yet reported that they have legislation in place to give effect to the Convention.

- Presentation on the status of implementation of Article 9.
- Opportunity for updates by those States Parties in the process of developing and adopting legislative, administrative and other measures in accordance with Article 9, and, if relevant, to make their needs for assistance known.

**Article 3: Updates on plans for and use of mines retained for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques**  
**(Cartagena Action Plan: #56-#58)**

In the *Cartagena Action Plan*, the States Parties agreed to three action points regarding mines retained for purposes permitted under Article 3 of the Convention.

- Opportunity for those States Parties that have reported mines retained for the purposes permitted in Article 3 to share information on their plans requiring the retention of mines in accordance with Article 3, the actual use of these mines and the results of this use. These updates have been requested in response to the following three questions:
  1. What are the reasons for changes / no changes in quantity and types of mines retained by your State since the Second Review Conference?
  2. What are the purposes for which retained mines have been used and what have been the results of this use, including for example:
    - a. the mine detection, clearance or destruction techniques that have been / are being developed?
    - b. the mine detection, clearance or destruction training that has been carried out?
    - c. the number of personnel trained and to what standard?
  3. What are your State's plans for the further development of mine detection, clearance or detection techniques and further training which would result in the use of mines retained under Article 3?
- Opportunity for those States Parties that have reduced or eliminated those mines reported retained for purposes permitted in Article 3 to share information.
- Opportunity for those States Parties that have reported that they have not retained mines for the purposes permitted in Article 3 to share their experiences.
- Opportunity for comments, questions and discussion.

**13:00 Meeting adjourns until Friday 25 June at 15:00**

## **Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction**

### **15:00 Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs**

- The Co-Chairs will set the scene for the work of the Standing Committee through a presentation that recalls salient aspects of the Review and Action Plan adopted in Cartagena.

### **An overview of the status of stockpile destruction**

- Co-Chairs' presentation on the status of the implementation of Article 4.
- Views of the ICBL on the state of implementation.

### **Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of implementation** ***(Cartagena Action Plan: #7-#11)***

At the Second Review Conference, the States Parties recorded that, while implementation of the obligation to destroy all stockpiled anti-personnel mines as soon as possible remains a great achievement, the matter of stockpile destruction also persists as one of the Convention's most complex remaining challenges.

- Opportunity for updates by States Parties that are in the process of complying with their Article 4 stockpile destruction obligations. These updates have been requested in response to the following three questions:
  1. What is your plan to ensure compliance as soon as possible?
  2. What progress has been made in the implementation of Article 4 since the Second Review Conference?
  3. What is your expected completion date?
- Opportunity for comments and questions.

### **Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of transparency reporting** ***(Cartagena Action Plan: #54)***

At the Second Review Conference, the States Parties recorded that one State Party has not yet provided initial transparency information, as required, on matters that concern stockpiles and their destruction.

- Opportunity for an update by the State Party that has not yet confirmed its stockpile status in an Article 7 transparency report.

### **The destruction of previously unknown stockpiles** ***(Cartagena Action Plan: #12)***

In the *Cartagena Action Plan*, it was agreed that all States Parties will, when previously unknown stockpiles are discovered after stockpile destruction deadlines have passed, report such discoveries in accordance with their obligations under Article 7, and in addition take

advantage of other informal means to share such information as soon as possible and destroy these anti-personnel mines as a matter of urgent priority.

- Opportunity for updates by States Parties on previously unknown stockpiles of anti-personnel mines.

**Updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the stockpile destruction aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan***

- Opportunity for brief updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the stockpile destruction aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*.

**Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs**

**16:30 (Approximate timing) Meeting ends**

**Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration**

**16:30 (Approximate timing) Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs**

- Introduction by the Co-Chairs on the work of the Standing Committee.

**Overview of the status of victim assistance and plans to facilitate progress in achieving the aims of the *Cartagena Action Plan***

- The Co-Chairs will set the scene for the work of the Standing Committee through a presentation that recalls salient aspects of the Review and Action Plan adopted in Cartagena, as well as the document presented by their predecessors in Cartagena that is intended to provide guidance to the States Parties in the application of the *Cartagena Action Plan*.

**Updates from relevant States Parties on plans to facilitate progress in achieving the aims of the *Cartagena Action Plan* at the national level**  
**(*Cartagena Action Plan*: #23-#33)**

In the *Cartagena Action Plan*, the States Parties expressed their resolve to provide adequate age- and gender-sensitive assistance to mine victims, through a holistic and integrated approach that includes emergency and continuing medical care, physical rehabilitation, psychological support, and social and economic inclusion in accordance with applicable international humanitarian and human rights law, with the aim of ensuring their full and effective participation and inclusion in the social, cultural, economic and political life of their communities.

- Updates by those States Parties that have indicated that they hold the responsibility to provide for the well-being of significant numbers of landmine survivors. These updates have been requested in response to the following questions:
  1. What has your State done at the national level to raise awareness on the Cartagena Action Plan?
  2. Has progress been made on any specific actions in the Cartagena Action Plan?

3. What plans do you have to apply the Cartagena Action Plan?
- Opportunity for comments and questions in response to the presentations made by those States Parties that have indicated that they hold the responsibility to provide for the well-being of significant numbers of landmine survivors.

**18:00 Meeting adjourns until Thursday 24 June at 10:00.**

## **TUESDAY 22 JUNE**

### **Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies**

#### **10:00 Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs**

- The Co-Chairs will open the meeting by providing an overview of the work of the Standing Committee.

#### **An overview of the status of implementation of Article 5**

- Co-Chairs' presentation on the status of implementation of Article 5.

#### **Updates by States Parties that have completed implementation of Article 5 since the Second Review Conference**

At least one State Party may be in a position to report that it has completed implementation of Article 5 of the Convention since the Second Review Conference.

- Updates by States Parties that have completed implementation of Article 5 since the Second Review Conference. Updates have been requested in response to the following six questions:
  1. What steps did your State take (e.g., general and technical surveys, assessments, et cetera) to identify areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines were known or were suspected to be emplaced?
  2. What steps did your State take to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians from areas in which anti-personnel mines were known or suspected to be emplaced, prior to the clearance of mines from these areas?
  3. How soon after entry-into-force of the Convention for your State did your State prepare and begin implementing a national demining programme?
  4. What financial, technical and other means were made available by your State to fulfill its obligations to clear mined areas? What financial, technical and other means were made available by others to assist your State in fulfilling its obligations?

5. On what basis did your State determine that it indeed had completed clearance of anti-personnel mines as required by the Article (e.g., by undertaking detection, clearance and quality assurance efforts pertaining to identified mined areas in accordance with international standards, et cetera)?
6. How many mined areas and how much mined area was released and how many anti-personnel mines and other explosive remnants of war were destroyed as a result of your State's efforts to complete implementation of Article 5?

➤ Opportunity for comments and questions.

**Updates by States Parties that were granted extensions on Article 5 deadlines**  
**(Cartagena Action Plan: #13)**

At the 9MSP and at the Second Review Conference, the States Parties agreed to grant requests to 15 States Parties in 2008 and four States Parties in 2009. In their requests, States Parties provided various indications of progress expected during the extension periods and in granting these requests, the States Parties recorded common understandings and concerns about the requests. The purpose of this agenda item is to provide 15 of these 19 States Parties<sup>1</sup> with the opportunity to share updates on their progress in implementing Article 5 in relation to these progress indicators, common understandings and concerns.

- Updates by States Parties that were granted extensions on deadlines for implementing Article 5. Updates have been requested in response to the following three questions:
1. What progress has been made since the Second Review Conference? To what extent has the total amount of mined area and the number of mined areas been reduced?
  2. Is your State on track to achieving its objectives for 2010 as described in its extension request?
  3. What actions have been taken related to decisions of the States Parties with respect to your State's request?
- After each set of five presentations, the Co-Chairs will provide an opportunity for comments or questions.

**13:00 Break for lunch**

**15:00 Updates by States Parties that were granted extensions on deadlines for implementing Article 5**

- Continued from the morning session.

---

<sup>1</sup> These 15 States Parties are: Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia, Ecuador, Jordan, Mozambique, Peru, Senegal, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda, the United Kingdom, Venezuela and Yemen. Chad, Denmark and Zimbabwe were also granted extensions in 2008 but they have or will be submitting additional requests in 2010. Therefore, they will be given an opportunity to take the floor under the agenda item entitled "Updates by States Parties that have submitted or will submit requests in 2010". In addition, as Nicaragua has an extended deadline that occurs on 1 May 2010, it is presumed that Nicaragua will be in a position to report on completion under the item "Updates by States Parties that have completed implementation of Article 5 since the Second Review Conference".

**Updates by States Parties that have submitted or may submit requests in 2010**  
**(Cartagena Action Plan: #21)**

By the time of the meeting of the Standing Committee, five to seven States Parties<sup>2</sup> will have submitted requests for extensions for consideration at the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties. In addition, the process of analysing requests, agreed to at the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties, will have commenced.

- Presentation by the President of the Second Review Conference on the status of requests received and the analysis of them.
- Opportunity for States Parties that have submitted requests to share highlights of their requests with the Standing Committee. Presentations have been requested in response to the following six questions:
  1. What remains to be done in order for your State to complete implementation of Article 5? How much mined area and how many mined areas remain?
  2. What are the circumstances that have impeded the ability of your State to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control?
  3. What is the amount of time requested and what is the rationale for this amount of time?
  4. What is your State's plan to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State's jurisdiction or control?
  5. What major structural, technical or practical changes, if any, has your State planned for the period of the extension to ensure that your State will meet its Article 5 obligations in the requested time frame?
  6. What financial and technical means has your State dedicated to ensuring the fulfilment of your State's Article 5 obligations and what financial and technical means will your State dedicate for this purpose?
- Following each presentation, there will be an opportunity for comments and questions.

**Updates from other relevant States Parties on the status of implementation of Article 5**  
**(Cartagena Action Plan: #14-#20)**

In addition to the States Parties that were granted extension requests at the 9MSP or at the Second Review Conference and the States Parties that have submitted or may submit requests for consideration by the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties, there are other States Parties that as of the close of the Second Review Conference were still in the process of implementing Article 5.

Of particular interest regarding these and other States Parties implementing Article 5 is the emphasis the Second Review Conference placed on the fact that "several States Parties, including some for which the Convention entered into force several years ago, have not yet

---

<sup>2</sup> Chad, Colombia, Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania and Zimbabwe.



provided clarity pursuant to their obligation under Article 7, paragraph 1(c), to report on the location of all mined areas that contain or are suspect to contain, anti-personnel mines.”<sup>3</sup>

In this regard, the Co-Chairs would like to highlight the importance of applying Action #14 of the *Cartagena Action Plan*, which states that “States Parties that have reported mined areas under their jurisdiction or control, will do their utmost to identify, if they have not yet done so, the precise perimeters and locations, to the extent possible, of all areas under their jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or are suspected to be emplaced, report this information as required by Article 7, no later than the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties....”

➤ Opportunity for updates by those States Parties which have indicated that they are in the process of fulfilling obligations under Article 5 of the Convention. Updates have been requested in response to the following five questions:

1. What remains to be done in order for your State to complete implementation of Article 5? How much mined area and how many mined areas remain?
2. If your State still does not know how much mined area and how many mined areas remain to be addressed, what steps are being taken to acquire the necessary information?
3. What is your State’s plan to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under your State’s jurisdiction or control?
4. What new methodologies, if any, are being explored or have been employed in your State’s effort to fulfil its Article 5 obligations?
5. What financial and technical means has your State dedicated to ensuring the fulfilment of your State’s Article 5 obligations and what financial and technical means will your State dedicate for this purpose?

➤ Opportunity for comments and questions.

**18:00 Meeting adjourns until Wednesday 23 June at 10:00**

## **WEDNESDAY 23 JUNE**

### **Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies**

**10:00 Presentation on a study of the aging of emplaced anti-personnel mines**

The characteristics of emplaced anti-personnel mines change significantly as they grow older – a situation is constantly observed in the field through the recovery of rotted, rusted and damaged mines. Until recently, this situation had not been adequately investigated, with the traditional assumption being that aging ammunition tends to become “unpredictable,”

---

<sup>3</sup> Review of the Operation and Status of the Convention, 2005-2009, paragraph 79.

which is often interpreted as “unstable.” James Madison University’s (JMU) Center for International Stabilization and Recovery (CISR) will present initial findings from a study it is undertaking on the aging of emplaced anti-personnel mines. This matter may have implications for allocation of resources and clearance assets, for the choice of techniques for releasing land and for mine risk education.

- Presentation by James Madison University’s Center for International Stabilization and Recovery on the aging of emplaced anti-personnel mines.
- Discussion.

**11:15 Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of implementation of Article 5 (continued)**

- Continued from the previous day’s session.

**13:00 Break for lunch**

**15:00 Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of implementation (continued)**

- Continued from the morning session.

**Updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the mine clearance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan***

- The Co-Chairs will provide an opportunity for brief updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the mine clearance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*.

**18:00 Meeting ends**

**THURSDAY 24 JUNE**

**Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration**

**10:00 Meeting reconvenes.**

**The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and its relationship to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention**

The Second Review Conference noted that “new developments and understandings, such as the comprehensive manner in which the CRPD records what is required to promote the full and effective participation and inclusion of mine survivors in the social, cultural, economic and political life of their communities, provide a standard by which to measure victim assistance efforts” and that the “CRPD can provide the States Parties with a more systematic, sustainable, gender sensitive and human rights based approach by bringing

victim assistance into the broader context of policy and planning for persons with disabilities more generally.”<sup>4</sup>

- Presentation by the Chair of the Committee of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on the work Committee and its relevance for the application of the victim assistance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*, including on matters related to reporting and monitoring.
- Opportunity for comments and questions related to this presentation and for views to be shared regarding the relationship between the CRPD and the AP Mine Ban Convention.

**11:30 Updates from relevant States Parties on plans to facilitate progress in achieving the aims of the *Cartagena Action Plan* at the national level**

- (continued)

**13:00 Break for lunch**

**15:00 Updates from relevant States Parties on plans to facilitate progress in achieving the aims of the *Cartagena Action Plan* at the national level**

- (continued)

**16:30 Focus on inclusive development  
(*Cartagena Action Plan*: #41)**

The Second Review Conference recorded the concept of *inclusive development* as an appropriate mechanism to ensure that landmine victims and other persons with disabilities have access to the same opportunities in life — for healthcare, social services, a life-sustaining income, education and participation in the community — as every other sector of a society. It is the Co-Chairs’ desire to increase understanding on this important concept.

- Opportunity for an exchange of views and good practice in implementing inclusive development programmes.

**17:15 Updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the victim assistance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan***

- Opportunity for brief updates on other developments and initiatives in support of the application of the victim assistance aspects of the *Cartagena Action Plan*.

**18:00 Meeting ends.**

---

<sup>4</sup> Review of the Operation and Status of the Convention, 2005-2009, paragraph 165.

## **FRIDAY 25 JUNE**

### **Special Session on Cooperation and Assistance**

#### **10:00 Special Session on Cooperation and Assistance (Cartagena Action Plan: #34-#52)**

At the Second Review Conference, the States Parties recognised that fulfilling their obligations will require sustained substantial political, financial and material commitments, provided both through national commitments and international, regional and bilateral cooperation and assistance, in accordance with the obligations under Article 6.

Given the great interest expressed by States Parties at the Second Review Conference in ensuring that cooperation and assistance would be a priority during the period 2010-2014, the President and the Co-Chairs have dedicated half a day during the week of 21-25 June as a special session on cooperation and assistance.

- (A programme for this discussion will follow at a later date.)

#### **13:00 Session ends, break for lunch**

### **Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention**

#### **15:00 Article 3: Updates on plans for and use of mines retained for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques (Cartagena Action Plan: #56-#58)**

- (Discussion continues, if necessary, from Monday.)

#### **The practical implementation of the various other provisions of the Convention**

- An opportunity for updates or views to be shared on other provisions of the Convention not otherwise covered by this or other Standing Committees.

#### **Review of the Intersessional Work Programme**

At the Second Review Conference, the States Parties agreed to call upon the Coordinating Committee to review the operation of the Intersessional Work Programme, with the Chair of the Coordinating Committee consulting widely on this matter and presenting a report and, if necessary, recommendations to the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties.

- Presentation by the President of the Second Review Conference and Chair of the Coordinating Committee on efforts by the Coordinating Committee to review the operation of the Intersessional Work Programme.
- Discussion.

### **Preparations for the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties**

At the Second Review Conference, the States Parties agreed to hold the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties (10MSP) in Geneva during the week of 29 November to 3 December 2010, to designate Gazmend Turdiu, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania, President of the 10MSP, and, to adopt cost estimates for the 10MSP.

- Presentation by the President-Designate of the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties (10MSP) of a proposed approach to and programme for the 10MSP.
- Discussion.
- Update provided by the Secretary-General-Designate of the 10MSP and by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs on 10MSP organizational matters.
- Discussion.

### **Updates on other implementation mechanisms**

- Update by the Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme.
- Updates (if desired) by the Coordinators of the Contact Groups.

### **Any other business**

### **Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs**

## **Closing of the week of Standing Committee meetings**

**17:45** **Remarks by the Director of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining**

**18:00** **Week of Standing Committee meetings ends**