



MINUTES OF THE CCM COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Tuesday 16 May 2017

at the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany, from 15:00 – 16:30 hours

1. Present:

Germany - 7MSP President

H.E. Michael Biontino
Mr. Toralf Pilz

Australia

Mr. Hugh Watson
Ms. Nicole Sawick

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Mr. Asim Dorović

Costa Rica

Ms. Maricela Muñoz

Croatia

Ms. Ines Sprem Scigliano

France

Ms. Camille Guffet

Iraq

Mr. Emad Al-Juhaishi

Italy

Ms. Palma D'Ambrosio
Dr. Silvia Cattaneo

Mexico

Mr. Víctor Martínez

The Netherlands

Mr. Mark Versteden

New Zealand

Ms. Katy Donnelly

Norway

Ms. Malgorzata Hauge
Mr. Magnus Løvold

Switzerland

Mr. Laurent Masméjean

Zambia

Mr. Samson Lungo

Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC)

Ms. Amélie Chayer

UNODA

Ms. Silvia Mercogliano

Secretariat ISU-CCM

Ms. Sheila Mweemba
Mr. Matthieu Laruelle
Ms. Elaine Weiss

Apologies received

ICRC

2. Opening Remarks by the President

President of the Seventh Meeting of States Parties (7MSP), Ambassador Michael Biontino of the Federal Republic of Germany, opened the fifth Coordination Committee meeting of 2017 with a warm welcome to all the Committee members.

3. Approval of the Minutes of 25 April 2017

The Committee approved without corrections the draft Minutes of the Coordination Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 25 April 2017 as a correct record of what had been discussed and agreed to during that meeting.

4. Update from the 7MSP Presidency

Ambassador Biontino provided an update on the implementation of the activities undertaken by the Presidency since the last Meeting.

4.1 Structured Dialogue

The President reported that progress had been made in preparing the event on military-to-military dialogue. The President added that he would approach States not party the week after and start working on a draft agenda.

To conclude the round of informal discussions with States that produce and/or possess cluster munitions, the President informed the meeting that the Presidency would meet with Saudi Arabia the following day.

4.2 RACVIAC Seminar

The Presidency reported that preparations were progressing in organizing the workshop on *Enhancing Implementation of Articles 3 & 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions in South East Europe: the country coalition concept*, which would be taking place in Rakitje, Republic of Croatia, on 12 - 13 June 2017 at the Centre for Security Cooperation's (RACVIAC) premises. The Ambassador reiterated the invitation to coordinators to attend as registration numbers were still fairly low. He added that it was expected that the sessions would be highly stimulating as participants were from different regions of the world with varied experiences with regards to the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The Presidency further expressed his anticipation that this seminar would be of similar quality to that of Bangkok which was held in March 2017. He then invited the ISU-CCM Director to provide more details on the event.

The Director informed the meeting that the agenda was being finalized pending the decisions of Norway and the Netherlands to speak during sessions three (3) and four (4). The Director explained that to date only one donor State had registered and urged more donor States to register. The Director concluded her update by informing the meeting that she would keep them informed on progress.

Croatia expressed its immense gratitude to the President for organizing the workshop at RACVIAC. The coordinator further explained that RACVIAC was an excellent security hub for enhancing the overall security and stabilization efforts in the wider region of South Eastern Europe. It was

highlighted that Croatia and RACVIAC had jointly organized the longest-running CCM-related event (workshops/seminars) in the world. Indeed, since 2008, Croatia and RACVIAC had organized 6 events solely dedicated to the CCM and 2 events on the APMBC. The coordinator stressed that Croatia was actively engaged in supporting this upcoming workshop and that it would deliver a national presentation on CCM implementation and on how to tackle the issue of cluster munitions in general. In addition, the coordinator mentioned that Croatia would moderate Session 3 on the connection between affected countries and donor countries and exploring the practical implications of the country coalition concept on the challenges related to Articles 3 and 4 implementation. Finally, as an affected State, Croatia confirmed it would participate in the wrap-up session with recommendations and possible ways ahead. Croatia concluded its intervention by appealing once again to its fellow coordinators and all States Parties to follow suit and contribute to the success of this workshop.

In contributing to the discussion, Switzerland asked the President if he could resend all the seminar documents so that the coordinator could forward the information to its capital.

Ambassador Biontino expressed his gratitude to the ISU-CCM Director and Croatia for their contributions and confirmed that he would send the invitation and background documents again to ambassadors.

4.3 Land Release Workshop

The President reported that the workshop on land release would be taking place on 7 June 2017 ahead of the APMBC intersessional meeting. He thanked the ISU-CCM Director for sending out an email the previous day to remind invitees to register for this event and added that more information on it would be sent out at the end of the week.

5. Updates by the Thematic Coordinators on their work up to the 7MSP

5.1 International Cooperation and Assistance (Australia and Iraq)

Australia, speaking on behalf of the two thematic Coordinators, reported that the two would be hosting a closed follow-up informal meeting on *Enhancing International Cooperation and Assistance under the CCM* in the margins of the APMBC intersessional meetings on 9 June 2017. The Coordinator informed that invitations had already been sent out to 14 affected States and 14 donor States, including to the CCM Coordinators on victim assistance, stockpile destruction and clearance. It added that the informal meeting, which would be open to invited states only, would provide an opportunity for affected states and donor states to share directly with each other further developments on their challenges, needs and capacities with regards to cooperation and assistance. He concluded by saying that the meeting would also address the role of the coordinators on international cooperation and assistance with a focus on the '*country coalitions*' concept for enhancing international cooperation on implementation of the CCM.

5.2 General Status and Operation of the Convention (Bosnia & Herzegovina and Switzerland)

Switzerland, reporting on behalf of the Coordinators on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, informed the meeting that it was planning to finish drafting its reports by 20 June. The reports would be on the review of the ISU-CCM Hosting Agreement between CCM States Parties and the GICHD; on the exploration of possible synergies between ISUs; and on the review of the ISU-CCM financing model. This would allow for sufficient time for additional bilateral meetings before final submission date on 20 June. The coordinator concluded by saying that, if necessary, it would hold additional consultations on the different reports during the month of August.

5.3 National Implementation Measures (New Zealand)

In its role as Coordinator on National Implementation Measures, New Zealand reported that Wellington had approved the two documents mentioned during the previous Coordination Committee; one a guidance document on how States could address the financing of cluster munitions and the second a short briefing document aimed at facilitating promotion of the CCM by New Zealand's posts in all relevant bilateral and regional engagements in 2017.

As sponsor of the upcoming ratification seminar in Uganda, New Zealand extended its compliments to the coordinators on universalization and the ISU-CCM on the good progress made regarding the organization of the ratification seminar to be held on 29-30 May 2017.

5.4 Universalization (France and Zambia)

France, reporting on behalf of the Coordinators on universalization, thanked New Zealand for its financial support towards the organization of the seminar and informed the meeting that 11 signatory States had already registered to attend (Angola, Benin, DRC, Djibouti, Liberia, Madagascar, Namibia, Nigeria, São Tome and Príncipe, the Gambia and Uganda). France reported that the coordinators were awaiting the response from the remaining three (3) African signatory States that were invited. In giving an overview of the seminar agenda, France informed the meeting that the main objective of the seminar would be to identify obstacles to ratification and assist signatory States to take concrete steps towards ratification of the CCM. The coordinator added that States participating in the seminar would have to present on their position and plans to ratify the CCM. France expressed its hope that the participating signatory States would issue statements to demonstrate their willingness to take the next steps to ratify and implement the CCM. Zambia concluded the update by thanking the ISU for its excellent work in organizing the seminar.

5.5 Stockpile Destruction (Croatia and Mexico)

Mexico, speaking on behalf of the two Coordinators on Stockpile Destruction, stated that Coordinators had been in consultation with the ISU and were glad to inform the meeting that Botswana had submitted an official letter to Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) to request technical support in the development of a destruction plan for Botswana's limited cluster munitions stockpiles.

Mexico further reported that as at 16 May, only five (5) States with obligations under Article 3 had submitted their 2016 annual report and that the coordinators would follow up with the remaining States to ensure submission of their reports. Mexico informed the meeting that Croatia, Spain and Switzerland had reported to be on track in fulfilling their Article 3 obligations. It also reported that Cuba had also informed the coordinators that it was confident that it would be able to do the same before its 2024 deadline.

5.6 Victim Assistance (Chile and Italy)

Italy informed the meeting that it had not received a response from the 16MSP APMBC President on the possible co-organization of a side event on victim assistance. Therefore it would be collaborating in its national capacity with UNMAS to organize a panel discussion event during the APMBC intersessional meeting on 8 June. Italy added that the focus of the event would be on how to ensure that victim assistance efforts could be comprehensive – addressing both physio-psychological needs of victims and the socio-economic inclusion of survivors and their families – and how victim assistance should be considered a part of development strategies. It concluded by informing that the formal invitations and information on the event would be sent out soon.

Ambassador Biontino thanked all the coordinators wholeheartedly for all the updates.

6. Looking ahead to the 7th Meeting of States Parties (7MSP) – review of 7MSP documentation

6.1 Provisional Agenda

The President put forward the idea of including on the Agenda a session on the general exchange of views before delving into matters of substance. Ambassador Biontino expressed his intention to encourage States to discuss and recognize the influential role of the Convention in international relations during the 7MSP. He stated that, in his experience, the mere issuing of a factual statement under a specific agenda item would not be as impactful as having an open discussion; and while he recognized that time management could be challenging, holding a general discussion or debate during the 7MSP could be beneficial. With this in mind, the President asked coordinators whether they believed a specific session should be dedicated to general exchanges of views on the importance of the Convention or if States should only deliver statements under thematic agenda items.

New Zealand, in sharing its view on this matter, stated that it would be practically difficult to hold a general discussion or debate on the Convention during the 7MSP due to the limited time. New Zealand noted that if time was set aside for a general debate many delegations might feel obliged to speak, even when their contributions would be more appropriate under one of the specific agenda items. It was New Zealand's preference to encourage substantive exchanges under the agenda items (even if that meant some delegations might add some general remarks to one of their targeted interventions).

In contributing to the discussion, Norway supported the view of New Zealand and added that holding a general discussion or debate tends to lead to only generic comments.

The Netherlands also echoed New Zealand in stating that the time constraint during the 7MSP would not allow for such an activity to realistically take place. In addition, based on its own experience as President of the 6MSP, the Netherlands explained that omitting general statements from the agenda had allowed for more focused discussions with less repetition and better time management.

Switzerland, in sharing its view on this matter, reminded the meeting that States parties had taken the decision to reduce the MSPs from five (5) to three (3) days at the 1st Review Conference also due to the financial implications of holding longer meetings. It added that in order to make space for a general debate and statements by delegations, the duration of the MSP would need to be lengthened again to five (5) days.

Italy, in its contribution, restated and elaborated on the Netherlands' opinion that including a general discussion or debate would make participants feel obliged to take the floor and convey generic repetitive statements. It suggested that if some States would like to make more general statements, they should be given the possibility to do so under a dedicated agenda item such as the *Review of the status and operation of the Convention*.

Ambassador Biontino thanked the coordinators for their feedback on the issue and concluded that the case had been made not to include a session on general debate at the 7MSP, but rather States would be encouraged to express their broader views on the Convention under thematic issues. The President concluded that delegations would be informed accordingly on the UNOG and the Convention's website once the final conference documents were ready and uploaded.

The Committee approved the 7MSP provisional agenda as presented without any amendments.

6.2 Draft Provisional Programme of Work

Taking the meeting through the items on the draft provisional programme of work, the President read out the items on the document and opened it up for discussion.

On the elections of Vice Presidents mentioned under agenda item (5), the President informed the meeting that in accordance with previous CCM practice the previous 4 presidents would be proposed to serve as the meeting's vice-presidents. In this regard, letters had been sent to the Netherlands, Croatia, Zambia and Costa Rica to inform them accordingly.

In contributing to the discussion on the programme of work, the Netherlands, inquired how the CCM financial model was going to be discussed during the 7MSP and suggested for the discussion to be placed earlier in the programme to allow for ample time to discuss this matter.

The President responded by clarifying that this matter would be introduced in the first session under item number six (6) of the draft provisional programme of work. The President further explained that he would invite States parties at the beginning of the meeting to approach him should they have comments on the draft document.

Switzerland, in its capacity as one of the coordinators tasked with presenting a report on the review of the financial procedures on financing the ISU pointed out that the report would be presented on the first day of the MSP and the financial procedures would be discussed on the third day, as stated in the provisional annotated programme of work.

Switzerland then asked if time had been allocated to discuss the financing of UN conference services. While recognizing that the financing of CCM meetings was not an issue, the coordinator mentioned that the APMBC had dedicated a specific session to this issue.

The ISU Director replied by pointing out that a specific agenda item 9 had been added in the latest version of the Draft Provisional Programme of Work upon UNODA's request to allow UNOG Financial Resources Management Service to provide an overview of the financial status of the Convention.

The Ambassador took the meeting through the entire draft provisional programme of work which the Committee then approved without corrections.

6.3 Provisional Annotated Programme of Work

The President informed the meeting that he was pleased to provide civil society with a forum to highlight the important role it had played in the negotiation of the Convention at a special event to be held on the first evening of the 7MSP. He added that he looked forward to detailed discussions between States and organizations on the implementation of the Convention. Ambassador Biontino conveyed his gratitude to Switzerland in assisting the Presidency in the organization of the reception at the Château de Penthes.

While reminding coordinators that the document was based on a standard format, the President took the meeting through the provisional annotated programme of work by going through each section.

The President reiterated that he would present the draft reports under agenda item (6) and open the floor for comments. Should there be a lot of comments the President informed the meeting that he would invite those states with remarks to have informal consultations with the presidency.

The Netherlands, in its contribution, asked if the President envisioned that the country coalition initiative mentioned in item (6)(e) would result in an adopted decision.

Ambassador Biontino responded by affirming that the Presidency would like to produce a strong statement with regards to the country coalition initiative, even though it would not result in an official decision by the meeting as it is was a voluntary strategy that was not contained in the Convention.

Switzerland, in contributing to the discussion, also added that the country coalition initiative could nonetheless be acknowledged in the final report of the meeting.

The ISU-CCM Director, in contributing to the discussion on section (8) on *the review of the status and operation of the Convention and other matters important for achieving the aims of the Convention*, reminded the coordinators to consider whether they would like to retain or modify the relevant thematic questions/challenges posed in the report presented to the 6MSP to guide discussions during the 7MSP.

CMC, in its contribution, stated that it had found the thematic questions/challenges helpful in facilitating discussions during previous MSPs.

The President thanked the Director and CMC for their input and requested that the coordinators respond to the Director by the end of the week if they would like the questions/challenges of their sections to be amended.

CMC, in further contributing to the discussion, noted that the draft annotated agenda did not mention the Cluster Munition Coalition among speakers who could take the floor on compliance issues, and asked if it would be possible to amend the document.

The ISU Director thanked CMC for the observation and assured that the document would be corrected accordingly.

Switzerland, in its contribution, inquired if a political declaration would be adopted at the end of the 7MSP, just as it was at the 6MSP.

The President responded by stating his opinion that the declaration adopted at the end of the 6MSP was a substantial one that demonstrated the commitment of the States Parties in fulfilling their obligations to the CCM by 2030. He further expressed that it was his considered view that such a declaration should not be produced annually, but once every few years, in order not to undermine its inherent value.

The Committee approved the annotated programme of work with minor amendments.

6.4 CCM Implementation Support Unit 2018 Work Plan and Budget

The ISU-CCM Director provided an overview on the ISU 2018 work plan and budget and informed the meeting that it was based on the five-year work plan (2016-2020) adopted during the First Review Conference in Dubrovnik in September 2015. She added that a title amendment had been made to the work plan with the section which outlines in further detail how the ISU provides support to the States Parties and the Coordination Committee being called “activities, outputs and outcomes”. The Director informed the meeting that though the information in the budget section was more detailed than in the five-year work plan, there was no change to the figures that were approved during the

First Review Conference. She added that the only factor that could affect the budget would be if the 8MSP President were to decide that the 8MSP be held in its home country.

7. Update on the search for 8MSP President

The President informed the meeting that he had still not identified a successor to take up the presidency of the 8MSP though he had held continuous consultations with a Latin American State, which had not been able to come to a decision on the matter. He reported that he would proceed to approach a State in Africa to enquire if it could preside over the 8MSP.

8. Update on ISU-CCM finances

The ISU-CCM Director reported to the meeting that since the last update, an additional 6 States Parties had made financial contributions, bringing the total of States Parties that had paid their 2017 ISU budget contribution to 34. The Director further elaborated that as of that date, the 34 States Parties had contributed a total of CHF 278'623.54 and that this amount was approximately 61% of the 2017 ISU budget. This amount did not include the working capital reserve which would bring the total contribution of States in 2017 to CHF 295'337.54. She added that one State had made a voluntary contribution of CHF 60'000 towards the ISU Trust Fund. The same state also contributed CHF 16'714 to the working capital reserve, bringing the total funds available in the working capital reserve to CHF 20'958.65.

In reacting to the Director's update, the President suggested that a letter be sent out to States Parties to remind them of their obligations to contribute towards the financing of the ISU by the end of June.

The President extended his utmost gratitude to States that had contributed financially to the UN Conference Services which would permit the Convention to hold the 7MSP.

Contributing to the discussion, UNODA confirmed that UNOG financial services had received the majority of the assessed contributions for which States had been billed in advance. UNODA reiterated that should additional documents (other than those reflected in the approved cost estimate for 7MSP) require processing and translation, additional costs would be incurred.

9. Any other business

Update from the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC)

CMC informed the meeting that the 'Worldwide Investments in Cluster Munitions: A shared responsibility report 2017' would be released on 23 May 2017 at the Stop Explosive Investments Global Day of Action. It added that these findings would be shared with the meeting in the near future.

10. Date of the Next CC Meeting

It was agreed upon that the next meeting of the Coordination Committee would be held on **Monday, 26 June 2017 from 15:00h to 16:30h** in the conference room of the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany.

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