

Statement by Ambassador Stefano Toscano, Director of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)

7th Meeting of States Parties of the Convention on Cluster Munitions
Palais des Nations, Geneva, Room XIX

Report on Elements of the Review of the Agreement between the States Parties to the CCM and the GICHD

Mr. President,

The GICHD is committed to the current CCM architecture and to hosting the ISU-CCM in particular, which is providing significant support to promote the universalization and the implementation of the Convention. The Centre is proud to support a well-functioning and cost-efficient ISU, in accordance with the agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD.

The GICHD fully agrees with what has been outlined in the report, namely that the agreement has been implemented smoothly to the satisfaction of all parties.

The Centre is of the opinion that the hosting agreement is beneficial to the Convention, the ISU-CCM and the GICHD. While fully respecting its independence, having the ISU-CCM hosted by the GICHD allows both entities to benefit from one another in terms of expertise, information sharing and access to a range of mine action partners.

Mr. President,

It is mentioned in para 10 of the report that, in terms of process, the interactions between the GICHD, the ISU and the CCM Presidency together with the Coordination Committee remains fragmented, given that the ISU interacts directly with the Presidency and the Coordination Committee on matters related to the implementation of the Agreement. In this regard, we believe that the GICHD being allowed to take part in the Coordination Committee meetings would help, since it would facilitate these interactions as foreseen by the Agreement.

Thank you.