



Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)

CCM Intersessionals 16.-19. April 2012

Implementation Support Unit

Genève, le 16 avril 2012

Madame Chair

Madame President

We would like to express our great appreciation for your tireless efforts and the excellent preparatory work you have done together with your team and partners. We wish you a successful fulfillment of the challenging tasks at hand.

Switzerland recognizes the establishment of an ISU as an important pillar for the implementation of the Convention and we support the decision taken at the 2MSP for a small but effective ISU hosted by the GICHD. We are glad to see that the consultations for a hosting agreement and a financing model for the ISU led by the Presidency are developing in a positive way.

We particularly commend you for the careful elaboration of the draft working paper, which closely follows the decisions taken at the 2MSP in Beirut and clearly defines the applicable frame and parameters for the ISU.

As regards the draft decision, we very much support the direction taken and thank you for providing this draft which allows an early and informed discussion on the matter at hand. The text might need some clarification in certain aspects, as for example a reference to the GICHD, which most likely will host the ISU.

Switzerland is glad to confirm that we would be ready to contribute substantively by logistic and administrative support, so-called in-kind contributions, channeled through the GICHD to the establishment and functioning of the ISU.

Accordingly, the services of the GICHD mentioned in draft decision 4 would go far beyond the mere provision of working space; the services will ensure the logistic basis for the ISU, provide a comprehensive working environment for the running of the ISU and, thereby, facilitate the work of the ISU substantively.

This in-kind contribution would significantly lower the initial costs related to the set-up of the ISU. It would lower the amount of assessed contributions for each state and thereby respond to skepticism raised by some countries today.

After the set up of the ISU, Switzerland's support channeled through the GICHD would help keeping future costs down when the ISU executes its core activities decided by the states parties. Switzerland would be ready to assure a significant multiyear support and thereby demonstrate its sustainable commitment.

We hope to set an incentive for other states to join us in supporting the ISU with voluntary contributions. These contributions are an important element in the burden sharing; they contribute to the best possible implementation of the CCM, and assure the follow-up on the success-story of this instrument.

In the end it will be important to explore which of the options at hand is both feasible and best suitable to implement the principles set out at the 2MSP. Switzerland has a clear preference for a model which ensures a maximum number of States contributing to the ISU's core activities, and which allows the conduct of important non-core activities paid and supported through voluntary contributions. We call upon all states in a position to do so to participate in these endeavors and to lower the burden, accordingly. In our view, the presented hybrid model of assessed, voluntary and in-kind contributions is a basis for a broad and fair burden sharing and a good compromise.

Thank you, Madame President.