

CCM Intersessional Meeting: Cooperation and assistance

Working group on Cooperation and Assistance

Tuesday-Wednesday, April 16-17, 2013

Chaired by

Paola Ramirez, Permanent Mission of Mexico, Geneva
and Björn Cappelin, Permanent Mission of Sweden, Geneva

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Summary of Technical workshop (2013-04-12):

- The wide scope of activities of the **NATO Support Agency** in industrial demilitarization of ammunition, clearance, training etc. Activities are implemented through two funding schemes.
- Norway gave the example of a **donor state**'s experience in providing cooperation and assistance, focusing on victim assistance and stockpile destruction of cluster munitions and landmines. Assistance is not only financial but also technical and material. Importance of a broad and long term perspective.
- **The UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** and the Multi Donor Trust Mechanism. These programs could be seen as additional channels available to support victim assistance. The Partnership is a common platform with the purpose of delivering as one.
- Importance of **reporting on international cooperation and assistance** in three main areas: stockpile destruction, clearance and victim assistance. Reporting is crucial to matching needs with resources with a view to enhancing collaboration. States are invited to share their views on the reporting guide for cooperation and assistance.

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Article 6 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions:

“Each State party in a position to do so shall provide technical, material and financial assistance to State parties affected by cluster munitions, aimed at the implementation of the obligations of this Convention.”

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- Assistance can take many forms: clearance, stockpile destruction, victim assistance and risk education, economic and social recovery
- Article 6 also promotes the exchange of equipment, and scientific and technical information, good practices, mutual assistance (technical, material and financial).
- Vientiane Action Plan, actions number 33 to 50: stress the need to initiate and strengthen the partnership between and among affected and non-affected State parties.

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Questions for this session:

- Relatively small number of countries that have officially requested assistance. How can states make their needs more clearly known? Is there a way for the convention to facilitate for States in this regard?
- What does cooperation entail? Not only financial resources. It could also include sharing of skills, expertise, experience, lessons learned and technical exchanges. What is the extent of such cooperation? Any ideas for future projects in this regard?