



MINUTES OF THE CCM COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Wednesday 20th November 2019

in Conference Room 6A, Tower 3, Maison de la Paix, from 10:00 to 11:30 hours

1. Present:

Switzerland – 2RC President

H.E. Mr. Félix Baumann

Ms. Aline Berdoz

United Kingdom – 10MSP President-Designate

H.E. Mr. Aidan Liddle

Afghanistan

Mr. Shoaib Timory

Australia

Mr. William Elischer

Mr. Diwaka Prakash

Austria

Ms. Susanne Hammer

Iraq

Mr. Mohammed Ridha Al-Haidari

Mexico

Mr. Alonso Martínez

Montenegro

Mr. Nikola Ražnatović

Netherlands

Mr. Reint Vogelaar

Philippines

Ms. Divina Trinidad S. Carolino

Spain

Mr. Juan Manglano

Zambia

Ms. Chileshe Nkole

CMC

Mr. Hector Guerra

Ms. Kasia Derlicka-Rosenbauer

ICRC

Ms. Wen Zhou

UNODA

Ms. Silvia Mercogliano

Apologies received:

Chile

New Zealand

Sweden

Apologies not received:

Namibia

Implementation Support Unit - Secretariat

Ms. Sheila N. Mweemba

Mr. Emad Al-Juhaishi

Ms. Elaine Weiss

2. Opening remarks by the President

The 2RC President, Ambassador Félix Baumann, opened the second Coordination Committee Meeting under the Swiss Presidency with a warm welcome to the Committee members present. Thereafter, the President tabled the provisional Agenda which was adopted by the Meeting as presented.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous Coordination Committee Meeting

The Committee adopted the Minutes of the Coordination Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 25th September 2019, without correction, as an accurate record of what had transpired during that Meeting.

4. Update by the 2RC Presidency on its activities since the last Coordination Committee Meeting with a focus on CCM universalization

The President reminded the Committee of the Swiss Presidency's step-by-step approach in fulfilling its mandate. In this regard, the Presidency, during the previous Meeting had focused on its efforts to universalize the Convention which it deemed very important though lagging behind the target of 130 States Parties by the 2RC. He reiterated that universalization was one of the priorities of the Presidency and welcomed the contribution of Coordination Committee members in this area. He stressed that the rationale to focus on this matter at the beginning of the presidency was the need to take into consideration the timing of activities as there would be several trips abroad which had to be undertaken in the first part of the year. Tackling on this issue early in the year would also give some time to States that might ratify the CCM before the 2nd Review Conference. Ambassador Baumann emphasized that the focus should not only be on achieving high numbers for the Review Conference but to ensure that universalization was a continuous process.

Ambassador Baumann reported that the 74th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 74) First Committee (C1) afforded him the opportunity to collaborate with the ISU Director to hold bilateral meetings with several delegates of States not yet party to the Convention. He informed that the meetings with Zimbabwe, Nepal and Guinea-Bissau were among those he found particularly interesting. The president further reported that he had participated at the side event organized by New Zealand and Iraq in the sidelines of the C1 whose theme was "*the past, present and future of the CCM*" represented by three presidencies of the CCM: Sri Lanka (past), Switzerland (present) and the United Kingdom (future) - as panelists. He noted valuable input from the floor such as the linkage of disarmament to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the importance of the military-to-military dialogue to continue. He expressed his gratitude to the Coordinators who were present at the side event.

The President elaborated that the presidency had developed a universalization plan which would be implemented at 2 levels: regional and bilateral. At the regional level, focus would be on 2 regions: South East Asia and African signatory states. In South East Asia, possibly with ASEAN states, where the universalization gap was significant, the Presidency aimed to organize a workshop, including a military-to-military dialogue, to facilitate increased accessions to the Convention in the region. While in Africa, which had the highest number of CCM Signatories, a workshop would be hosted to discuss the obstacles impeding ratification and how these obstacles could be overcome. In addition, the

Presidency would support 2 other regional workshops; one planned by the ICRC together with the African Union with a focus on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and the CCM with a universalization dimension; and the second, hosted by Canada in Grenada aimed at all the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member States. The President informed that he had held consultations with Canada on the workshop while in New York. Ambassador Baumann noted that CARICOM States were “low-hanging fruit” and therefore the workshop was an excellent initiative to support.

At the bilateral level, the President informed that consultations had started at the Swiss Foreign Ministry with a decision to be taken before the end of the year on which bilateral meetings would be held. The strategy would include to *démarche* or to undertake a visit to a target country. The Presidency would also reach out to Swiss representations worldwide by the end of the year to request them to organize *démarches* to encourage identified States to join the Convention. The President added that he would like to visit some States that had shown particular interest to encourage them personally. He gave Zimbabwe as an example of a country that had given encouraging signals as was exhibited by the change in its vote on the CCM resolution in the UNGA First Committee. He highlighted that Zambia; Germany and the ISU had been engaging with Zimbabwe for a while and that an in-country visit would be encourage to further engagement. The President stressed that he intended to continue with the military-to-military dialogue, initiated by the German Presidency in 2017, to promote universal adherence to the Convention.

Ambassador Baumann emphasized that the Presidency would take advantage of all existing meetings and work with other organizations to promote the Convention. He further reported that his team had had a meeting with the universalization Coordinators to discuss how the presidency team could work together with them in the period up to the 2RC. He pledged the support of the Presidency if so requested. He stressed his willingness to collaborate with other States Parties in their efforts or to partner with them in order to achieve the Convention’s goals. The President acknowledged that some countries had more expertise, for instance, in the military field, and he would appreciate their partnership.

The President then opened the floor for discussion.

In its contribution, Australia referred to the statement it made at the 9MSP regarding its commitment to promote the CCM in the Pacific. In this regard, Australia announced it would be co-hosting together with New Zealand a workshop in Suva, Fiji, in June 2020. The workshop would focus on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), the CCM and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) Protocol V. Australia also noted that Shangri-La Dialogue was another relevant forum on security and defence held annually in June that gathered government delegates of the ministerial level and was the Asian equivalent of the Berlin Security Conference. The President thanked Australia and indicated that he would be happy to participate in such initiatives where feasible. He also informed that Switzerland would advance CCM universalization in the Pacific region through its embassy in Australia which for the first time had a second Ambassador designated as a roaming representative to cover the Pacific Islands.

Reporting on behalf of the Coordinators on Universalization, the Philippines informed the Meeting that the Coordinators (Chile and the Philippines) had met with Switzerland and the ISU a few weeks prior to discuss possible activities to promote CCM universalization in the lead up to the 2RC. The Philippines

welcomed the Swiss Presidency's proactive stance on universalization and was pleased to be informed that its region, South East Asia, was considered a priority by the Presidency. The Philippines viewed that as an excellent opportunity and communicated its readiness to assist in identifying entry points for CCM promotion within the political-security calendar of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in 2020. The Philippines reported that the Coordinators had also been exploring other potential activities, including organizing events for Signatories and States not Party to coincide with other disarmament-related meetings including possibly a military-to-military dialogue. Activities outside of Geneva were also being considered. In response, Ambassador Baumann affirmed that he would be in touch with the Coordinators regarding follow-up work from the Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop that was held in Manila in June 2019.

In his contribution to the discussion, the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) Director informed that the CMC had organized a working breakfast for CARICOM States at the Permanent Mission of Antigua and Barbuda in the margins of the UNGA 74 First Committee. The CMC would continue to communicate with Chile on universalization among Caribbean countries and Canada regarding the preparation of the upcoming CARICOM regional meeting.

The ICRC representative thanked the President for demonstrating his support for the regional seminar the ICRC was planning with the African Union (AU). She added that if the seminar were to take place, it would be at the AU level where issues related to the Convention would be addressed, while the ATT and other weapons would also be discussed. She indicated that the ICRC would also include the CCM on the agenda of other ICRC regional and national International Humanitarian Law (IHL) seminars, for example, in ECOWAS or South Asia. In addition, the ICRC reaffirmed its commitment to assist the work of the Swiss Presidency in promoting universalization such as providing support at other regional workshops as well.

In further contributing to the discussion, another CMC representative expressed her enthusiasm for the work of the Swiss Presidency and noted that the work of CCM universalization required a lot of effort and needed many different actors saying the same thing to make an impact. She stressed that the ambitious goal of 130 States Parties by the 2RC could be realized but only with coordinated action. In this regard, the CMC was planning to send letters to foreign ministers of signatory States and States not Party that had no reason to stay outside the Convention to petition them to join the CCM. The CMC found the regional approach appealing and since the CMC was well represented in many regions it was ready to cooperate at country level to support the work of the Presidency.

Ambassador Baumann conveyed his appreciation to everyone who had contributed to the fruitful exchange and commended the work of the organizations in their efforts to promote CCM universalization. He expressed his readiness to work with all that were interested in collaborating with the presidency.

5. Update on the UNGA 74 First Committee CCM Resolution

The President reported that he and the ISU Director had approached the delegates of approximately 10 to 15 States at the UNGA 74 First Committee plenary to encourage them to vote in favour of the 2019 CCM Resolution. He recognized that while that approach does not lead to immediate gains,

discussing the CCM Resolution with delegates provided an opportunity to establish contact with countries that had low engagement with the CCM community.

In comparing the results of the 2018 and 2019 votes during the First Committee meeting (preliminary vote), the president noted that the results were virtually identical, except for the one less YES vote in 2019 which could be attributed to the fact that some States which typically vote in favour were absent during the initial vote. In both 2018 and 2019, there was one vote against the Resolution, which was cast by Zimbabwe in 2018 and Russia in 2019. In response to constant outreach in New York and Geneva, Zimbabwe had changed its vote to Abstain for the first time and was open to discussing voting in favour of the resolution in December. Following this significant change in vote, the President would continue to engage with the Zimbabwean authorities in the subsequent months. Disappointingly, Russia, had changed its vote from an Abstain in 2018 to NO in 2019 and had not provided an official reason for the change in its vote. Ambassador Baumann informed that he intended to meet with Russia in December to find out why it had altered its vote and to encourage Russia to not vote against the CCM Resolution in the next year.

6. Reflection on drafting of the Review Document to be considered at the 2RC

The President stated that the core discussion of the day would be on the Review Document of the implementation of Dubrovnik Action Plan (DAP). He informed the Meeting that he intended to have the Review Conference documents ready in sequence. The aim of the Review Document was to highlight successes and gaps in the implementation of the Action Plan which would constitute a solid basis to draft the new Action Plan. The President indicated that he would like the document to be concise, precise and easily readable. In this regard, he recommended that the document followed the outline of the DAP as it was well-structured.

Ambassador Baumann proposed that the Presidency would work with the Coordinators on General Status and Operation of the Convention on the introduction and the conclusion of the Document, as well as on the institutional elements. He pointed out that it would be prudent to begin by reviewing the 7 actions of the DAP and proposed that the Coordinators work on their particular thematic section. He further proposed that a dedicated Coordination Committee Meeting be held to finalize the draft document. He informed that the ISU had already been gathering some elements under each thematic. He recommended that the Coordinators consult the ISU when drafting their section of the Document.

The President reiterated that he would like the Review Document to be ready for the First Preparatory Meeting of the Review Conference on 8th June 2020, and the first draft to be prepared by the end of February. He advised that the deadline for submission of analysis and input to the Review Document from States Parties and other stakeholders would be at the end of March so the document could be submitted to UNODA for processing in April 2020. Thereafter, all elements would be compiled, and the first informal draft would be circulated to all States Parties at the start of May, a month in advance of the Preparatory Meeting.

Contributing to the discussion, the ISU Director confirmed that the ISU had already begun to collect implementation data from the end of the first Review Conference (1RC) to the present day and had organized them in a manner that trends or progress in the respective thematic areas could be analysed.

The Director hoped that this information would help Coordinators get started on drafting their respective sections.

In the ensuing discussion, the United Kingdom commented that preparing the Review Document well ahead of the First Preparatory Meeting according to a clear timetable was appropriate in order to have adequate time to prepare the Review Document. The UK enquired if the CCM reporting rate and quality was adequate for meaningful data to be extracted from the reports. In response, the ISU Director informed that though the Article 7 reports were the main source of information, the ISU had also gathered material from official public statements made by States Parties during Meetings of States Parties or at other fora particularly in the case of those states that were yet to submit their transparency reports.

Australia, in its further contribution, enquired if the Coordinators had to follow a particular structure in the preparation of their respective sections of the Review Document or if they were allowed to take a creative approach in the drafting exercise. In response, the Presidency underlined that while there was no fixed structure, he would prefer a more concise and readable document, unlike the 1RC Review Document that was very long, and each section contained many paragraphs.

Contributing to the discussion, Austria stated that it supported the notion of a concise Review Document and underlined the added benefit of keeping translation costs low. Austria echoed the President in calling for Coordinators to keep their sections as brief as possible and ensure maximum readability.

In elaborating on the presidency's preference for a structure similar to the DAP, the ISU Director explained that the format of the Progress Report was changed in 2016 to increase its readability and the previous 4 Progress Reports had adopted this format. She noted that as the Review Document would be appraising the implementation of the Convention over a period of 5 years, presenting the information with a table and short narrative could be an easy and clear structure to follow. The ISU offered to prepare a template for the approval of the presidency that the Coordinators could then use for their respective sections.

In discussing the agenda item further, the UK enquired if all the 4 main Review Conference documents had to be ready for the First Preparatory Conference. The President clarified that only the Review Document needed to be prepared by June and the other 3 documents would only need to be made ready by the Second Preparatory Meeting scheduled for September 2020.

7. Presentation by Coordinators on thematic activities planned to enhance implementation of the Dubrovnik Action Plan (DAP) as well as on other priorities in the run up to the 2RC

The President acknowledged that the Coordinators on Universalization had already reported on their plans and activities under an earlier agenda item and invited the other Coordinators to report on their thematic mandates.

7.1 Victim Assistance (Mexico & Spain)

Spain, on behalf of the Coordinators on Victim Assistance, reported that they were in the process of drafting their work plan and had discussed with the ISU how to structure their work going forward. The Coordinators consequently decided to focus on ensuring that every country with cluster munition victims would adopt a national plan and designate a national focal point. The Coordinators aimed to increase information exchange between national focal points as this could assist in identification of best practices and challenges related to implementation. Furthermore, the Coordinators would continue to work on victim assistance issues with other relevant disarmament conventions, as was recommended at the 9MSP, to promote concerted and synergistic approaches to victim assistance.

Spain also expressed the readiness of the Coordinators to assist the Presidency in preparing the Review Documents. The Coordinator further indicated that as he would be in Oslo the following week, he would be available to collaborate with other coordinators. In closing, Spain informed that it had an embassy in Guinea-Bissau and that Spain would be pleased to facilitate communication between members of the Coordination Committee and the Guinea-Bissau government if necessary. In response, Ambassador Baumann thanked Spain for its enthusiasm to advance the implementation of the Convention and reminded all Coordinators that they were also welcome to engage on the CCM in countries where they had embassies as Switzerland did not have many itself.

7.2 Clearance and Risk Reduction Education (Afghanistan & Sweden)

Afghanistan, on behalf of the Clearance and Risk Reduction Education Coordinators, reported that the Coordinators had been working on their work plan and had submitted a draft to the ISU for comments and feedback. They intended to meet with the ISU shortly after to refine their plans for the coming year. Afghanistan informed that recent correspondence with focal points of States Parties with Article 4 obligations confirmed that Croatia and Montenegro were on track to fulfilling their obligations within the deadline; while Chile was likely to request extension of its deadline and Lebanon would be submitting its official extension request in the near future. The Coordinators would be collaborating with the ISU in organizing bilateral meetings with States that had clearance obligations in the sidelines of the APMBC's 4th Review Conference (4RC) in Oslo the following week. Afghanistan looked forward to reporting on the outcome of the meetings during the following Coordination Committee Meeting.

7.3 Stockpile Destruction and Retention (Australia & Austria)

Australia, speaking on behalf of the Coordinators on Stockpile Destruction, reported that they had been working on their concept note and had received useful feedback from the ISU. The Coordinators informed that they would focus on 2 groups of States Parties: the 5 states with impending stockpile destruction deadlines and the States Parties that had reported having retained cluster munitions for the permitted purposes under the Convention. The Coordinators intended to engage bilaterally and multilaterally with the target States. Activities planned for the year would include organizing events, sending letters and making calls to States Parties, as well as encouraging the establishment of partnerships or *country coalitions*. The Coordinators also planned to arrange for an exchange between States Parties that had retained cluster munitions. The Coordinators' overall aim was to increase the flow of information as required under the Convention.

In response, to the concerns that one of the States parties had still to officially report on the status of CCM implementation, the ISU Director informed that Guinea-Bissau had submitted a draft initial transparency report to the ISU the previous day for comments. The Director further reported that Guinea-Bissau would be participating in the 4RC of the APMBC in Oslo the following week and that the ISU would use the opportunity to seek further information from the state. She added that Guinea-Bissau had indicated in its report that it would require international cooperation and assistance to fulfill its Article 3 obligations.

Austria thanked the ISU Director for the sustained follow up with Guinea-Bissau over a long period and conveyed the Coordinators' anticipation in receiving Guinea-Bissau's initial transparency report in the near future. Austria reminded the Meeting that while Guinea-Bissau's submission signalled progress in implementation, it still had a considerable amount of work to do to fulfill its Article 3 obligations. Regarding South Africa, Austria reported that it had not submitted its 2018 annual transparency report even though it had announced that it would do so at the 9MSP. Therefore, South Africa's state of progress in the destruction of its cluster munitions stockpile was unclear. The Coordinators reported that they would also be meeting with Peru in Oslo the following week in the margins of the APMBC's 4RC to ascertain if it was on track to complete its stockpile destruction by its deadline. Austria specified that the Coordinators would subsequently follow up with Bulgaria.

7.4 International Cooperation and Assistance (Montenegro & Netherlands)

The Netherlands, on behalf of the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance, reported that the Coordinators had almost finalized their concept note, and that one of the priorities for the year would be to support the Swiss Presidency in the preparation of the Second Review Conference and its documents. The Coordinators would also continue to work on their main tasks including the promotion of the country coalition concept particularly to States Parties with obligations under Article 3 and 4. The Netherlands highlighted that Montenegro and Lebanon had provided key lessons to be learnt from effective country coalitions.

The Netherlands reiterated that the closed meeting on establishing a Lao PDR country coalition in the sidelines of the 9MSP had been productive. Feedback from the Lao PDR delegation included the need for more guidance in the process and some key learning points from the meeting documented to ease information sharing with its capital. This document would provide a blueprint or guidelines for States in forming a country coalition. The Netherlands informed that the Coordinators would work on developing a guidance note and explore synergies with concepts comparable to the country coalition, such as the *individualized approach* under the APMBC. The update was concluded with the coordinators stating that they would continue to work closely with other coordinators to promote implementation as well as with other Conventions for synergies. The President expressed his appreciation for the update and toward the valuable initiative.

7.5 Transparency Measures (Iraq)

Iraq, Coordinator on Transparency Measures, notified that since the 9MSP, one State Party, Somalia, had submitted its initial transparency report. The Coordinator further reported that on 30th October 2019, a reminder letter was sent to the Gambia to encourage it to submit its initial report by the due date of 28th November 2019. In this regard, Iraq also looked forward to the submission of the initial

report of the Philippines which would be due on 28th December 2019. Iraq further reported to have produced, with the support of the ISU, a brochure that outlined the importance of transparency reporting while also providing guidance on how, when and what to report. The brochure would also be helpful in its outreach meetings with States Parties.

Additionally, Iraq reported on the side event it had co-organized with New Zealand to mark 10 years of CCM implementation at the New Zealand Permanent Mission in New York in the margins of the UNGA 74 First Committee Meeting. Iraq ended its update by informing that had already drafted its concept note with the support of the ISU and advised that it would be circulated to the Coordination Committee soon after the meeting.

7.6 General Status and Operation of the Convention (Namibia and Zambia)

Zambia, speaking on behalf of the Coordinators on General Status and Operation, informed that the Coordinator had met with the ISU Director two days earlier to discuss probable tasks the Coordinators could undertake in the coming year. She assured the president that Coordinators were available to assist the president on any task assigned to them. In response, Ambassador Baumann conveyed his gratitude for the support of the Coordinators and tasked them with assisting the presidency with the drafting of the Review Document to be considered at the first Preparatory Meeting in June 2020.

8. Update by the CCM Implementation Support Unit

8.1 New ISU staff member

The ISU Director reminded the Meeting that at the last meeting she had informed that a member of staff had been recruited and thereafter introduced the new Implementation Support Specialist, Mr. Emad Al-Juhaishi, to the Coordination Committee.

8.2 Update on the financing of the ISU

The ISU Director reported that since the last Meeting, 5 additional States Parties had made contributions to the ISU's 2019 annual budget, bringing the total number of contributing States to 45 out of 103 States Parties invoiced. The total amount of contributions to the 2019 budget amounted to just over CHF 500'000 which was equivalent to approximately 105% of the annual budget.

She further reported that the 2020 assessed contribution invoices had been sent to all States Parties on 31st October 2019 and that as at that day, 8 States parties had already made their contributions.

8.3 Lebanon Article 4 extension request

The Director reminded the Meeting that Lebanon had previously sent an initial draft extension request to the ISU for comments. Lebanon had since sent a revised version of the 5-year extension request based on the ISU's initial observations. Additionally, the ISU was scheduled to meet with the Lebanese delegation in Oslo the following week for an in-depth discussion and to seek further clarification on some outstanding issues prior to Lebanon's official submission.

8.4 ISU at the UNGA 74

It was reported that the ISU supported and participated in the side event on the CCM which took place at the New Zealand Permanent Mission in New York. The ISU Director also accompanied the President during his bilateral meetings with targeted States. In addition, the ISU had bilateral exchanges with 30 States on various CCM-related issues, particularly on universalization, transparency measures and national implementation measures. During its time in New York, the ISU also took the opportunity to facilitate the collection of small cash contributions from 2 pacific island States: Palau and Samoa. The ISU had written to 4 States Parties that did not have representation in Geneva to inform them of the possibility of making cash contributions to the ISU budget and 2 of the States responded positively. The Director informed that enabling States to make small contributions in cash would be an initiative that the ISU would continue, as it significantly reduced bank fees attracted for these transactions.

8.5 ISU at the APMBC 4RC

The Director reported that the ISU would be in Oslo the following week to use the opportunity of having a large presence of countries gathered together to follow up with several targeted States that had various outstanding issues. The Director informed that the ISU would be available to support the Presidency and Coordinators in their CCM-related engagements in Oslo.

9. Any other business

9.1 CCM 2nd Review Conference Venue

The CMC Director enquired when the venue of the 2RC would be announced and in response, Ambassador Baumann advised that the Presidency had already identified a suitable venue but that there were still some last-minute consultations being held before the official announcement could be made. He further reported that it had been hoped that they would have a decision by that day but unfortunately that was not the case. He assured the Coordination Committee that he would inform it of the venue as soon as a decision is made.

9.2 Venues for future Coordination Committee Meetings

The President announced that it was the intention of the Swiss Presidency to host some future Coordination Committee Meetings at various locations around Geneva to avail members the opportunity to get to know interesting institutions and landmark buildings in the city. He added that some of these Meetings could be preceded or followed by a discussion and/or an optional guided tour of the venue. In contributing to the discussion, the CMC Director supported the idea and offered to host one the meetings at the Geneva Ecumenical Centre, where the CMC was now located, and which boasts of a historical chapel. Ambassador Baumann thanked the CMC Director for his suggestion and informed that the following Coordination Committee Meeting in January would be held at the International Red Cross & Red Crescent Museum on a date to be communicated later.

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