



UK Mission  
Geneva



10<sup>TH</sup> MEETING  
OF STATES PARTIES  
30 AUG - 2 SEPT  
GENEVA 2022

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CCM COORDINATION COMMITTEE

held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022

at the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom

from 10:00 to 11:30 hours

### 1. Present:

#### United Kingdom – 10MSP President

H.E. Mr. Aidan Liddle

Mr. Simon Cleobury

Ms. Eleonora Saggese

Ms. Sylvia Osoba

#### Iraq – President-Designate (11MSP)

Mr. Sabah Al-Janaby

Mr. Mohammed Ridha Al-Haidari

#### Bulgaria

Mr. Iassen Tomov

#### Chile

Ms. Pamela Moraga

#### France

Ms. Inès Mensah

#### Germany

Ms. Anna Mikeska

#### Mexico

Mr. Alonso Francisco Martínez Ruiz

#### Montenegro

Mr. Nikola Ražnatović

#### Namibia

Ms. Xungileni Chitundu

#### New Zealand

Mr. Nicholas Clutterbuck

#### Philippines

Mr. Jonelle John Domingo

#### Sweden

Mr. Niklas Nilsson

#### CMC

Mr. Hector Guerra

#### ICRC

Ms. Florentina Pircher

Mr. Maxime Nijs

#### UNODA

Ms. Silvia Mercogliano

Ms. Eunsong Choi

#### By invitation – GICHD

Ms. Susanne Rihs-Aeby

#### Implementation Support Unit

Ms. Sheila N. Mweemba

Mr. Emad Al-Juhaishi

Ms. Elaine Weiss

#### Apologies received

Australia

Spain

## **2. Opening Remarks by the Presidency**

The President of the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (10MSP), Ambassador Aidan Liddle of the United Kingdom, warmly welcomed the Committee members to the UK mission in Geneva and opened the seventh meeting of the Coordination Committee under its Presidency. He outlined that the focus of the Meeting would be on the preparations of the CCM Intersessional Meeting scheduled to take place from 16 to 17 May 2022.

The President then tabled the provisional Agenda of the Meeting which was adopted by the Committee as presented.

## **3. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Coordination Committee Meeting**

The Coordination Committee approved, without correction, the Minutes of its Meeting held on 5 April 2022, as an accurate record of what had been discussed during that Meeting.

## **4. Update by the 10MSP Presidency on Preparations for the 2022 Intersessional Meeting**

Ambassador Liddle reminded that the date of the 2022 Intersessional Meeting had been confirmed as 16 to 17 May 2022 as was communicated in the invitation letter sent on 5 April 2022 to CCM States Parties, Signatory States and Observer States.

The presidency reported that preparations for the Meeting were proceeding smoothly under the leadership of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of the Convention. The Meeting was informed that on 20 April, the organising team visited the Meeting venue, the Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG), to check the meeting hall and the other associated rooms. The presidency reiterated that due to the limited room capacity only one seat would be allocated to each delegation. Delegations were encouraged to register as soon as possible to allow for the team to know if their statements would be delivered online or in person. The presidency emphasised that the meeting was primarily an in-person one and therefore encouraged delegations to make their statements in the room.

Adding to the update of the presidency, the GICHD representative outlined that the organising team had checked on the room installation and facilities, organised catering for the Meeting's coffee breaks and other logistical matters. She echoed the presidency in encouraging delegations to register as soon as possible. The GICHD also reported that additional GICHD staff had been identified to assist the core team during the Meeting. She reported that at that time, only 52 participants representing 29 states and 8 organisations had registered for the meeting, of which 27 would participate in person. She highlighted that it was important for

participants to indicate their modality of participation and identify the primary speaker of the delegation to facilitate accurate giving of the floor during the Meeting.

The presidency reminded that the deadline for registration was Friday 6 May 2022. The presidency added that that would give the logistics team the time to see if there were any extra seats to allow for more participants per delegation to attend in person.

In contributing to the discussion, the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) enquired whether the one-person-per-delegation restriction limited the presence of other members of the same delegation in the room or at the venue in general. In response, the presidency clarified that there would be no restrictions on entry to the venue, and that representation in the room could be alternated. The President added that there was still the chance that an additional participant per delegation could be allowed to attend in person once the registration was closed.

Germany enquired whether delegations would need to submit a Note Verbale to register for the meeting but was informed by the presidency that there was no need for one as it was an informal meeting and delegates only had to register online to be a participant.

## **5. Discussion on the Provisional Programme of the 2022 Intersessional Meeting**

Ambassador Liddle reminded that the agenda and programme of work had already been circulated to all States and interested organisations prior to the Meeting. He then gave a brief overview of the Programme of Work which would begin with brief opening statements by the President and the Director of the GICHD.

Under agenda item 3, he informed that the thematic Coordinators would be invited to provide updates on their thematic area or raise issues to be considered at the 10MSP. The President highlighted that since there were more extension requests than initially expected so sufficient time would need to be dedicated to them. He stated that the presidency would take the floor under agenda item 3(e) - International Cooperation and Assistance to share the report on the UK innovative financing project. Item 3(g) - National Implementation Measures would be moved to Monday as requested by New Zealand as it would not be available on Day 2 of the Meeting. Under agenda items 4 and 5, the presidency would seek the views of delegations on the inclusion of a 15% contingency in the Convention's budget and on the recruitment procedure of the future ISU Directors respectively. Agenda item 6 would focus on the logistical preparations for the 10MSP. The President then opened the floor for questions and comments from the Committee.

Sweden enquired if there was room for general statements during the Intersessional Meeting and in response, the President clarified that these would be reserved for the 10MSP as the Intersessional Meeting was an informal meeting.

Ambassador Liddle then invited the Coordinators to present on matters to be discussed under each subtopic of agenda item 3 - the general status and operation of the Convention or to provide other updates on their work.

#### 5.1 Universalization (the Philippines and Spain)

The Philippines informed that he was yet to consult with Spain on what the Coordinators would present during the Intersessional Meeting but would instead report on the recent universalisation efforts carried out in Southeast Asia and with Commonwealth States in New York.

The Philippines reported that it had participated in the ASEAN Mine Action Stakeholder Workshop organised by the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia attended by military and mine action representatives. The workshop provided an opportunity to hand out the ICRC ratification kit and a letter to the represented states encouraging them to either ratify or accede to the CCM. Through bilateral engagement with these states, the Philippines had obtained valuable information that was not disclosed during the group meetings. The Philippines reported that most of the ASEAN States were not against the idea of joining the CCM but faced various obstacles to joining the Convention and proposed bilateral engagement by the presidency through a tour of the region. He concluded that it would be, nonetheless, valuable to identify key figures in capitals to work with in order to push for CCM ratification or accession.

Adding to the update of the Coordinators, the CMC Director expressed his appreciation to the UK Presidency for hosting the meeting in New York with Commonwealth States. He also thanked the Universalisation Coordinators, the ICRC and the ISU for participating in the meeting as resource persons. He pointed out that the meeting presented a valuable opportunity to obtain feedback from participating state, Jamaica, on how to move forward with its CCM ratification. Jamaica had informed that follow up with capital was crucial to ensure that joining the CCM would be brought to the forefront of the national agenda. The CMC Director indicated that this feedback applied to other CARICOM States which did not have major issues that prevented them from joining the Convention. He concluded with a recommendation for a similar outreach to be undertaken in Geneva.

The President asked if the Informal Working Group on Universalisation would be briefed and in response, the Philippines outlined that the Informal Working Group was a useful platform for interested States Parties to participate in universalisation efforts. He informed that he would consult with Co-Coordinator, Spain, on how the Coordinators would proceed during the Intersessional Meeting.

## 5.2 Stockpile Destruction (Australia and Bulgaria)

Bulgaria reported in its national capacity that Bulgaria would be submitting another extension request, as it had informed during the previous meeting. This was due to an accident at the utilisation plant in Italy tasked to destroy Bulgaria's stockpiles that had caused a major delay of its destruction activities onsite. Bulgaria would be providing an update on its Article 3 implementation at the Intersessional Meeting.

In its capacity as Co-Coordinator on Stockpile Destruction, Bulgaria informed that during the Intersessional Meeting, the Coordinators would provide a brief update on the implementation of obligations under CCM Article 3 by relevant states based on their interaction with them. On Peru, they expected an update on the development of its destruction plans up to the end of 2022, and with South Africa, there was nothing new to report on even though the Coordinators had been in contact with its representatives. Bulgaria indicated that if the Coordinators continued to have no success with South Africa in the following weeks, they would recommend that the 10MSP presidency intervened on their behalf with representatives in Pretoria. The Coordinators expected Slovakia to inform on whether it would be requesting a deadline extension or expediting its implementation. Bulgaria reminded that Slovakia was in the middle of an inter-institutional procedure with regard to its stockpile destruction. Bulgaria informed that the Coordinators would submit a draft of their update to the President in due course.

In her contribution to the discussion, the ISU Director informed that the ISU had reached out to all States Parties with Article 3 or 4 obligations to find out on how they would be taking the floor during the Intersessional Meeting. With regard to Article 3, Peru and Slovakia would be providing their updates in person, Bulgaria and Guinea-Bissau online, and South Africa would inform of its modality the following day.

## 5.3 Clearance and Risk Education (Guyana and Sweden)

Sweden reported that three Article 4 extension requests were expected to be presented during the Intersessional Meeting and that Chile had already submitted its request officially. It further informed that the Coordinators planned to deliver a short update on Article 4 implementation in order to give more time to States Parties with obligations to take the floor. Sweden informed that the Article 4 Analysis Group would meet the following day to consider Chile's extension request and that they were still awaiting the requests of Chad and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Adding to the Coordinators' update, the ISU Director informed that the ISU had received Chad's draft extension request and would be sending Chad its comments later that day. Bosnia and Herzegovina had also informed that it would require more time to submit its request due to a change of authorities at its mine action centre. The ISU Director further informed that

Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Somalia would deliver their interventions online, while Chad, Chile, Germany, Iraq, Lao PDR, and Lebanon would speak in person. Mauritania had yet to confirm its participation modality.

Ambassador Liddle reminded that there would be many important updates under Articles 3 and 4, and a significant amount of time in the morning and afternoon of Day 1 of the meeting had been dedicated to those updates.

#### 5.4 Victim Assistance (Chile and Mexico)

Mexico outlined that with regard to implementation of the Lausanne Action Plan (LAP) under this thematic area, the Coordinators had received only two responses to the letters sent to States Parties with Article 5 obligations. One was a comprehensive report from Croatia and the other a shorter response from Lebanon on “the best practices of the LAP”. Mexico informed that the Coordinators had been in contact with the GICHD and the CMC and had organized to meet with the ISU Director the following Monday to discuss the organisation of a victim assistance (VA) side event. He further indicated that the side event would be focused on the LAP – in particular, the challenges and best practices encountered by States implementing victim assistance provisions, and what could be incorporated into reporting. Mexico expressed its hope that the Coordinators would have a better idea on how to structure the side event after their meeting with the ISU Director. He highlighted the value of having both state representative feedback as well as the expert advice of civil society.

With regard to universalisation, Mexico conveyed his appreciation to the Philippines for the update and outlined that a technical seminar on the disposal of cluster munitions could be useful for targeted states which were not yet party.

Mexico asked the presidency about the approach that would be used during the intersessional meeting to include both in-person and online participants on the speakers’ list. In response, the President clarified that the list would be created before the meeting and updated following requests for the floor by participants during the Meeting. He reminded the Coordinators to notify the presidency if they were informed by any States requesting to speak under victim assistance for the speakers’ list to be updated.

#### 5.5 International Cooperation and Assistance (Germany and Montenegro)

Montenegro begun its update by stating that the thematic Coordinators hoped that the efforts of the United Kingdom in promoting innovative finance would be adopted as good practice by the CCM community in the future. He further reported that the Coordinators were still looking for a way to promote better understanding of the concept of country coalitions by both donor and affected states. He further noted that donor states were unsure of how they could contribute to affected states, while affected states were unsure of how to coordinate the

process which was a key component of receiving the required assistance. Montenegro indicated that affected States Parties needed to be proactive and to display national ownership when putting forward evidence-based requests for the support needed. He highlighted that operators could also play a key role in helping affected states in the process.

Montenegro informed that the Coordinators had preliminary information indicating that France and Mauritania were moving forward toward establishing a country coalition. The Coordinators hoped to be able to welcome the project in the near future. Montenegro pointed out that other affected states were in need of assistance too. He highlighted the inclusive nature of the mechanism and that while the Coordinators could play an intermediary role in establishing such partnerships, all key stakeholders needed to clearly understand their respective roles.

In contributing to the thematic, the presidency outlined that Mr. Simon Cleobury of the United Kingdom would take the floor under this agenda item to share the report of the meeting on innovative finance held at Wilton Park and which would be published shortly before the Intersessional Meeting. The presidency looked forward to more reflections on how to take the initiative forward. Additionally, the presidency wanted to hold a more in-depth discussion on the report by organizing a side event in the margins of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Intersessional Meetings scheduled for June 2022.

#### 5.6 Transparency Measures (Iraq)

Iraq pointed out that it would provide an overview of the current compliance of Article 7 implementation including the rate of submission of Article 7 reports. Furthermore, the Coordinator would encourage all States Parties to submit their Article 7 report by reaffirming the importance of the transparency measures obligation in the process of the work of the Convention. Thereafter, Iraq planned to provide introductory remarks to open up discussion on Action 45 of the LAP. He would emphasise the importance of simplifying the Article 7 forms in order to increase the reporting rate as well as to propose the incorporation of gender considerations into the forms. In closing, Iraq expressed its enthusiasm to receive feedback from states on this issue.

Ambassador Liddle reiterated that this would be the first opportunity for discussion on the important issue of adapting the reporting forms.

#### 5.7 National Implementation Measures (New Zealand)

New Zealand informed that its key objective at the Intersessional Meeting would be to remind states of the importance of National Implementation Measures (NIM). The Coordinator planned to present the video produced by New Zealand to outline the available resources to support states in implementing the Convention domestically. New Zealand also intended to

ask states to share their feedback on the usefulness of regional workshops when it came to Article 9 implementation. The Coordinator would probably also highlight New Zealand's experience of working with Niue on NIM. Furthermore, New Zealand would remind states of the role of divestment in achieving a world free from cluster munitions. New Zealand expressed its aims of generating a discussion on the dissemination of CCM obligations to national armed forces in the lead up to the 10MSP, where it hoped more concrete dialogue on the issue would transpire and that some States Parties would share their experiences in this regard.

The President conveyed his support of New Zealand generating initial dialogue around issues related to NIM to further their implementation ahead of the 10MSP. He echoed New Zealand by stating that the Intersessional Meeting served as an opportunity for States to prepare for the MSP.

#### 5.8 Gender and Diverse Needs (France and Namibia)

Namibia informed that the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) of the CCM Gender Focal Points had been circulated to the Coordination Committee the previous day. Namibia expressed its gratitude to the ISU on behalf of the Coordinators for the support of the ISU in finalising the draft document. Namibia explained that the Coordinators had prepared the TOR because there was a lack of clarity on how to guide States Parties in matters related to gender and diverse needs. Therefore, the TOR served to create more transparency and predictability of the roles of the coordinators as Gender Focal Points of the Convention.

Namibia sought clarification on how long Coordinators on General Status and Operation would serve as the Gender Focal Points and if the length of the term was up for discussion. Additionally, the Coordinators required guidance from the ISU on how much time was required for the Coordination Committee to assess the TOR before they were submitted to States Parties for their consideration.

In response, Ambassador Liddle pointed out that, from his understanding, the mandate of the Coordinators and their successors would stand for the review cycle. The ISU Director further clarified that the mandate would stand until a future decision was made by States Parties either at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Review Conference in 2026 or whenever they decided to amend this designation. The President guided Namibia to continue to receive feedback on the TOR even after the draft document had been circulated to States Parties.

In contributing to the discussion, Mexico thanked the Coordinators for preparing the TOR. He pointed out that points 5 and 9 on the term of the Gender Focal Points needed to be modified to ensure that the two points were aligned. Mexico assured the Coordinators that it would provide its feedback in writing.



## 5.9 Update by the Implementation Support Unit

The ISU Director informed that her update would be short and limited to the provision of a brief update on the finances of the ISU in 2022 and a reminder to those States Parties that had not yet made their contributions to the annual ISU budget to do so as soon as possible.

## 6. Financial Status of the Convention

Ambassador Liddle reiterated that with regard to agenda item 4, he would be seeking input on the inclusion of a 15% contingency line in the Convention's budget. He enquired if there would be a need to circulate a document on the Convention's finances. In response, UNODA clarified that there were no new updates on the financial status on the Convention other than the regular reports that were already available online. The President requested for the latest figures to be projected on the screen during the update at the Intersessional Meeting.

In its update on the financial status of the Convention, UNODA informed that it would have to coordinate with the UN finance team on the matter. In response, the President requested that the presidency be informed on when the finance team would be available so that the programme of work could be amended accordingly.

The presidency asked if both UNODA and the finance team could make the presentation. In response, UNODA stated that there would be no need for UNODA to take the floor because they would be presenting the same figures approved by the finance department.

UNODA reiterated that not much had changed since the last update and that a shortfall of around USD 92,000 remained towards the 10MSP budget. It explained that the shortfall was mainly caused by the non-payment of a few Observer States that were billed for their presumed participation in the 10MSP as per the old arrangement, which would not be repeated in the future.

UNODA further clarified that a number of states that usually made their contributions on time might have been confused by the transfer of funds from 2021 to 2022 due to the postponement of the 10MSP by one year. The amount invoiced to these states totalled approximately USD 21,000.

The President assured that he would write to these states to explain the situation to them and encourage them to pay. He would also write to those with payment arrears of 2 years or more to help UNODA close the old accounts.

UNODA informed that unfortunately, even if the Convention received the USD 21,000, it would still have a significant deficit for the 10MSP. Compounding the issue was that there would be additional documentation costs for the unexpected extension requests to be considered at the 10MSP. She indicated that by 1 June the President would need to take decisions on the cutting of some costs considering the gap in funds. UNODA advised that the usual practice would be not to translate certain documents or to reduce the number of days of the meeting.

## **7. Any Other Business**

### **7.1 Other Logistical Issues of the Intersessional Meeting**

Ambassador Liddle asked if the extension requests would be circulated to participants prior to the Intersessional Meeting. In response, the ISU Director explained that there was no need to do so as the requests would be officially submitted for consideration at the 10MSP and that those already received had been circulated by the ISU as soon as they were received as well as made available on the CCM website. This would be done with those still to be received as and when they were submitted.

The ISU Director added that all relevant Intersessional Meeting documents would be available on the Convention website. She added that the ISU would circulate the amended programme, the annotated programme of work and the draft decision on the recruitment of future ISU Directors the following week after the documents sent to the presidency prior to 6 May for any final comments.

Namibia indicated that the TOR for Gender Focal Points would be ready for circulation the following Wednesday.

The CMC Director enquired on the possibility of making video or remote statements. In response, the President explained that while there was room to include such interventions, sufficient notice had to be given so that the technical team could include them on the speakers' list.

### **7.2 Use of Cluster Munitions**

The CMC Director reiterated his concern on the use of cluster munitions in the war in Ukraine and referred to the first confirmed use of cluster munitions by Ukraine. He highlighted that CMC's statement on this alleged use had been circulated to the Coordination Committee on 21 April 2022. The CMC welcomed the input of all states on this matter.

In response, the President pointed out that while there was no agenda item for general statements in the Intersessional Meeting, he would include a call to stop the use of cluster munitions in Ukraine during his opening statement.

**8. Next Coordination Committee Meeting**

Ambassador Liddle announced that the Coordination Committee would meet briefly at 09:15 hours on Monday, 16 May 2022, at the CICG in a room adjacent to the Plenary Room E/F just before the Intersessional Meeting.

He informed that there would be two more regular Coordination Committee Meeting before the summer break, the former likely to be at the end of May and the latter at the end of June. The dates and venues of the meetings would be communicated in due time.

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