



Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer
of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
THE GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION**

CO-CHAIRS' NOTES TO MEETING PARTICIPANTS

12 and 16 May 2003

Introduction:

The February 2003 meeting of the Standing Committee commenced with an overview of and discussion on key areas of implementation, efforts to universalise the Convention, and the mobilisation of resources to necessary to implement the Convention. Doing so ensured a focus on progress in and challenges related to achieving the core humanitarian aims of the Convention. The Co-Chairs intend to proceed with the same approach in May. In addition, the Co-Chairs will provide time for updates on the activities of the Coordinating Committee, Implementation Support Unit and Sponsorship Programme, and discussions on matters pertaining to Articles 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 and 9 of the Convention. The Co-Chairs encourage States Parties to continue sharing information related to these Articles with a view to obtaining further clarity and understanding regarding their application.

Annotated Agenda:

Monday 12 May

15:15 Opening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs

Overview of the general status of implementation

The President of the Fourth Meeting of the States Parties (4MSP) will set the scene for the week of meetings by providing an assessment of progress in, and challenges related to, the achievement of the Convention's humanitarian aims, particularly by noting progress in the application of the President's Action Programme.

Overview of the general status of universalization

On 3 February, a panel presentation highlighted ways to make use of a variety of multilateral and regional forums to promote acceptance of the Convention. This agenda item will again focus on efforts in this area, particularly by highlighting the role of parliamentarians. In addition, this agenda item will provide an opportunity for interventions by States Parties and others involved in universalization efforts, and for States not Parties to the Convention to provide updates with respect to their plans to join the Convention.

Mobilising resources to achieve the Convention's humanitarian aims

On 3 February, a panel presentation highlighted the importance of the role of all States Parties in generating the resources necessary to achieve the Convention's aims. On 12 May, an opportunity will be provided to highlight another key aspect of resource mobilisation: the role of multilateral organisations.

Matters pertaining to the general operations of the Convention

Updates will be provided on the activities of the Coordinating Committee, the Implementation Support Unit and the Sponsorship Programme.

18:00 Standing Committee adjourns until 7 February.

Friday 7 February

10:45 Reconvening of the meeting by the Co-Chairs

Overview of Article 7 Reporting

The Coordinator of the Article 7 Contact Group will provide an assessment of the current state of reporting under Article 7. (Note: In accordance with Article 7, each State Party is required to provide an annual transparency report by 30 April.)

Update by Contact Group Coordinators (if necessary)

Contact Group Coordinators on Universalization and Resource Mobilization, if necessary, will provide updates on the outcome of Contact Group meetings held during the week.

Preparations for the Fifth Meeting of the States Parties (5MSP)

The Co-Chairs will seek views on a revised draft programme for the 5MSP and call upon Thailand to provide an update on logistical arrangements for the Fifth Meeting.

Experiences in implementing Article 1

States Parties will have an opportunity to continue to share information regarding their application of Article 1.

Experiences in implementing Article 2 and in addressing the humanitarian impact of mines that may pose similar risks to civilian populations as anti-personnel mines

States Parties will have an opportunity to continue to share (a) views on their application of Article 2 and (b) steps taken, and possible approaches to reduce the humanitarian impact of mines that may pose similar risks to civilian populations as anti-personnel mines.

13:00 Break for lunch

15:00 Updates on implementation of Article 3

States Parties will have an opportunity to continue to further clarify the reasons why mines are retained for training and development under Article 3.

Update on the dialogue related to the facilitation and clarification of compliance

Canada will provide an update on the open-ended dialogue on facilitation and compliance.

Matters pertaining to compliance concerns

The purpose of this item is to provide an opportunity for dialogue on the need to further clarify actions to be taken in the event that serious allegations of non-compliance are made.

Updates on implementation of Article 9

States Parties will have the opportunity to provide updates on efforts taken with respect to the provisions of Article 9 and to express needs regarding developing implementing legislation.

Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs, President and the Director of the GICHD

18:00 Meeting ends.