

## **Proposal regarding States Parties to serve in leadership positions in 2012**

### **Submitted by the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention (Canada and Thailand)**

**25 November 2011**

On 9 June 2011, Canada and Thailand, in their capacity as Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, wrote to all States Parties to recall the established practice that sees the States Parties take decisions regarding Standing Committee Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs. Canada and Thailand reminded States Parties that it has been established tradition in the Convention that the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention undertake the task of consulting with States Parties to identify a list of nominees to serve as Co-Rapporteurs. Canada and Thailand further recalled that, in undertaking these consultations, past Co-Chairs have kept in mind principles that have become customary – such as the principles of ensuring a regional balance, a balance between States Parties in the process of implementing key provisions of the Convention and other States Parties, and a balance between the need for rotation and the need for continuity.

In their 9 June 2011 letter, Canada and Thailand noted that, with respect to their task, the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties (10MSP) had “agreed to examine the possibility of rationalising the number of States Parties in leadership positions on Standing Committees, and, in this regard, requested that the President, on behalf of the Coordinating Committee, submit to the June 2011 meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, ideas regarding how many Co-Chairs / Co-Rapporteurs may be required to ensure the effective functioning of the mechanisms established by the States Parties, with a view to a decision to be taken on this matter at the Eleventh Meeting of the States Parties.”

Canada and Thailand further noted that the ideas submitted by the President, on behalf of the Coordinating Committee, pointed to the possibility of reducing the numbers of Co-Chairs / Co-Rapporteurs, and, that it was expected that over two years States Parties may arrive at an end state of two Co-Chairs for each Standing Committee, serving overlapping two-year terms. To reach that expected end state, Canada and Thailand indicated that they were seeking one Co-Rapporteur for each of the five Standing Committees. States Parties were reminded that those interested in serving in one of these positions would be making a two-year commitment to responsibilities. It was recalled that it has been established practice that, after serving one year as Co-Rapporteurs, the States Parties are subsequently elected to serve as the Co-Chairs of their respective Standing Committees.

Canada and Thailand highlighted that tasks involved in serving as a Co-Rapporteur / Co-Chair include:

- Providing leadership in promoting progress in implementation of various aspects of the Convention;
- Preparing the annual Intersessional Work Programme;
- Serving as a member of the Coordinating Committee, a body that meets six to eight times a year in Geneva; and,
- Jointly preparing, with the Presidency and the other Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs, an analysis of requests for extensions submitted under Article 5 of the Convention.

Canada and Thailand requested interested States Parties to express their interest to them, in writing, no later than 4 July 2011.

At the June 2011 meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, Canada and Thailand reminded delegations of their 9 June 2011 letter and recalled the effort they were undertaking to identify a list of nominees.

On the basis of interest expressed, Canada and Thailand wish to propose that the following five States Parties be elected to fill the five vacant slots for leadership positions on Standing Committees in 2011, subject to the adoption by the 11MSP of the proposal on rationalising the number of States Parties in leadership positions on Standing Committees: Bulgaria (General Status), Colombia (Victim Assistance), the Netherlands (Mine Clearance), Nigeria (Stockpile Destruction), and, Thailand (Resources, Cooperation and Assistance).

Subject to the adoption by the 11MSP of the proposal on rationalising the number of States Parties in leadership positions on Standing Committees, the following would serve as Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs from the end of the 11MSP to the end of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties (12MSP). In addition, in keeping with past practice, in a manner consistent with the proposal on rationalising the number of States Parties in leadership positions on Standing Committees, and, subject to confirmation by the 12MSP, Bulgaria, Colombia, the Netherlands, Nigeria and Thailand would continue to serve as Co-Chairs from the end of the 12MSP until the end of the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties (13MSP).

	<b>Proposed 11MSP Decision</b>	<b>Proposed 12MSP Decision</b>
<b>General Status</b>	Co-Chairs: Norway & Peru Co-Rapporteur: Bulgaria	Co-Chair: Bulgaria Co-Chair: To be nominated at 12MSP
<b>Stockpile Destruction</b>	Co-Chairs: Germany & Romania Co-Rapporteur: Nigeria	Co-Chair: Nigeria Co-Chair: To be nominated at 12MSP
<b>Mine Clearance</b>	Co-Chairs: Indonesia & Zambia Co-Rapporteur: Netherlands	Co-Chair: Netherlands Co-Chair: To be nominated at 12MSP
<b>Victim Assistance</b>	Co-Chairs: Algeria & Croatia Co-Rapporteur: Colombia	Co-Chair: Colombia Co-Chair: To be nominated at 12MSP
<b>Resources, Cooperation &amp; Assistance</b>	Co-Chairs: Albania & Thailand	Co-Chair: Thailand Co-Chair: To be nominated at 12MSP