

**FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES
TO AMENDED PROTOCOL II TO THE CONVENTION ON
PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF
CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE
DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE
INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS**

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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Wednesday, 26 November 2003, at 3.30 p.m.

President: Mr. TZANTCHEV (Bulgaria)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.30 p.m.

PROJECTION OF A FILM ILLUSTRATING ASSISTANCE IN MINE CLEARANCE
PROVIDED TO ERITREA BY CHINA

1. Mr. FU Zhigang (China), introducing the film, pointed out that the documentary showed that China was keen to fulfil its international commitments relating to demining. The Chinese authorities proceeded from the principle that the best way of helping mine-affected countries was to transfer to them the mine clearance equipment they needed and to organize on-the-spot training of local mine clearance workers, who could then take over from the foreign experts and continue their efforts, or help other countries affected by the problem. The Chinese delegation and the experts within it were ready to provide other delegations with all the details they might require following the showing of the film.

2. A film illustrating assistance in mine clearance provided to Eritrea by China was shown.

CONSIDERATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGIES TO PROTECT
CIVILIANS AGAINST INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS OF MINES (agenda item 11)

3. The PRESIDENT noted that no delegations wished to take the floor under the item.

OTHER MATTERS (agenda item 13)

4. The PRESIDENT noted that no delegations wished to take the floor under the item.

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE FINAL DOCUMENTS
(agenda item 14) (CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/CRP.1)

5. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the draft report of the Fifth Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II, which had been issued as document CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/CRP.1, and invited the Conference to consider it paragraph by paragraph before adopting it as a whole.

Paragraphs 1 to 4

6. Paragraphs 1 to 4 were adopted.

Paragraph 5

7. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the name of Ambassador Sipho George Nene of South Africa should be replaced by that of the country's Chargé d'Affaires a.i., Mr. Pitso Montwedi.

8. Paragraph 5 was adopted as amended.

Paragraph 6

9. Paragraph 6 was adopted.

Paragraph 7

10. The PRESIDENT said that the list of countries which had participated in the work of the Fifth Annual Conference should be added to paragraph 7, as follows:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Monaco, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

11. Paragraph 7 was adopted as amended.

Paragraph 8

12. The PRESIDENT said that the names of the signatory States which had participated in the work of the Conference - Egypt, Iceland, Nigeria, the Sudan and Turkey - should be added to the paragraph.

13. Paragraph 8 was adopted as amended.

Paragraph 9

14. The PRESIDENT said that the names of the States which were not parties to amended Protocol II but had participated in the work of the Conference as observers should be added to the paragraph, as follows:

Cuba, Dominican Republic, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia and Montenegro, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Venezuela and Yemen.

15. Paragraph 9 was adopted as amended.

Paragraph 10

16. Paragraph 10 was adopted.

17. The PRESIDENT said that paragraph 11 should read as follows:

The representatives of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the American Bar Association, the Quaker United Nations Office, the

International Campaign to Ban Landmines, Handicap International, Human Rights Watch, Landmine Action (UK), Mines Action Canada and Pax Christi attended the public meetings of the Conference.

18. Paragraph 11 was adopted as amended.

Paragraphs 12 to 15

19. Paragraphs 12 to 15 were adopted.

Paragraph 16

20. The PRESIDENT said that the names of the States and non-governmental organizations whose representatives had participated in the general exchange of views should be added to paragraph 16, so that it would read as follows:

The following delegations participated in the general exchange of views:
Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Italy (on behalf of the European Union and the acceding and associated countries), Japan, Pakistan, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Switzerland and United States of America. The representatives of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and Human Rights Watch also spoke.

21. Paragraph 16 was adopted as amended.

Paragraph 17

22. The PRESIDENT said that the secretariat had informed him that South Africa, the Philippines and Senegal should be added to the list of States which had submitted annual reports.

23. Mr. FLADBOE (United States of America), Mr. PILOT (Luxembourg) and Mr. VALLE FONROUGE (Argentina) said that the names of their countries should also be added to the list.

24. The PRESIDENT noted that the number of annual reports submitted to the fifth Conference now stood at 48, a fact which should be mentioned in paragraph 17.

25. Paragraph 17 was adopted as amended.

Paragraph 18

26. Mr. HUNGER (Switzerland) pointed out that the list of national annual reports submitted by the States parties in 2003 had been drawn up by the delegation of Switzerland on the basis of the situation on 24 November 2003, and would be updated to take account of the reports submitted after that date. He invited all delegations which had not yet done so to submit their 2003 reports to the secretariat as soon as possible.

27. Paragraph 18 was adopted.

Paragraph 19

28. Paragraph 19 was adopted.

New paragraph

29. The PRESIDENT suggested that a new paragraph should be added after paragraph 19, to read as follows:

During the course of the Conference, the delegation of China delivered an audio-visual presentation entitled “China’s demining assistance to Eritrea”.

30. Mr. MALAZHN (United States of America) observed that it would be more appropriate to place those words after paragraph 16, where the general exchange of views was mentioned, since the statement by the delegation of China and the film that had been shown fell into that context.

31. The paragraph was adopted as new paragraph 17.

New paragraph 21 (former paragraph 20)Draft appeal by the States parties to Amended Protocol II on the occasion of their fifth annual Conference (CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/CRP.3)

32. The PRESIDENT invited the Conference, before proceeding to adopt the paragraph, to consider and adopt the draft appeal issued by the States parties on the occasion of their fifth annual conference, which appeared in document CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/CRP.3 and was referred to in new paragraph 21. He pointed out that the appeal, which he had drawn up himself in his capacity as President, had already been examined by the delegations during their consultations.

33. The draft appeal issued in document CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/CRP.3 was adopted.

34. New paragraph 21 was adopted.

New paragraph 22 (former paragraph 21)

35. New paragraph 22 was adopted.

New paragraph 23 (former paragraph 22)Nomination of the President and vice-presidents of the sixth annual Conference

36. The PRESIDENT invited the groups of States to put forward candidates for the posts of President and vice-presidents of the sixth annual Conference, as mentioned in new paragraph 23.

37. Mr. WENSLEY (South Africa), speaking on behalf of the group of non-aligned States and other States, proposed Ambassador Carlos Antonio da Rocha Paranhos of Brazil as President of the sixth annual Conference.

38. The PRESIDENT said that the secretariat had informed him that the Western group and the group of Eastern European States would decide on Friday, 28 November 2003 on the candidates they would be putting forward for the posts of vice-presidents. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Conference wished to nominate Ambassador da Rocha Paranhos of Brazil as President of the sixth annual Conference.

39. It was so decided.

40. The PRESIDENT suggested that new paragraph 23 should be amended in the light of the decision the Conference had just taken, so as to read as follows:

In the light of the decision taken at the fourth annual Conference to designate the President and vice-presidents at the end of the Conference in order to assure the continuity of the preparatory work by the presidency, the Conference decided to nominate Ambassador da Rocha Paranhos of Brazil as President designate of the sixth annual Conference of States parties, to be held in 2004, and representatives of other regional groups to be nominated as vice-presidents on 28 November 2003.

41. New paragraph 23 was adopted as amended.

New paragraph 24 (former paragraph 23)

42. The PRESIDENT drew attention to two documents referred to in new paragraph 24 - the provisional agenda of the sixth annual Conference, which had been distributed to delegations, as the future annex IV to the final document, and the cost estimates issued in document CCW/AP.II/CONF.5/L.1, which would appear as annex V.

43. New paragraph 24 was adopted subject to minor drafting changes to be introduced by the secretariat.

New paragraph 25 (former paragraph 24)

44. New paragraph 25 was adopted.

45. The draft report of the fifth annual Conference of the States parties to Amended Protocol II was adopted as a whole.

46. The PRESIDENT observed that the Conference had completed its consideration of the items on its agenda.

CLOSURE OF THE CONFERENCE

47. After thanking all the delegations as well as the secretariat and conference services for their contributions, the PRESIDENT declared the fifth annual Conference of the States parties to Amended Protocol II closed.

The meeting rose at 4.30 p.m.