

**THIRD CONFERENCE OF THE HIGH  
CONTRACTING PARTIES TO PROTOCOL V  
ON EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR 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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**Geneva, 9 - 10 November 2009**

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

**Review of the status and operation of the Protocol**

**REPORT ON COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE AND  
REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

Submitted by the Coordinator<sup>1</sup> on Cooperation and Assistance and Requests for Assistance

**I. WEB-BASED INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR PROTOCOL V (WISP.V)**

1. Based on the relevant decisions of the Second Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, the 2009 Meeting of Experts had to further consider the establishment of the WISP.V and prepare a comprehensive proposal for consideration and final adoption by the Third Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V. For this purpose the Coordinator had to further elaborate the details of the Protocol V information system and prepare a proposal for the Third Conference of the High Contracting Parties.

2. In order to facilitate the work, the Coordinator consulted extensively a number of technical possibilities with relevant experts in the UN System and outside the UN System.

3. The following possibilities were identified in order to create the proposed WISP.V:

(a) Option I:

- (i) Make use of existing information systems, such as the OCHA on-line project management system. In order to customize and reduce the scope of the OCHA system human resources and labour are needed. The system would be hosted by UN servers, which require hardware development in order to be able to serve the users and technical maintenance.

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the relevant decision of the Second Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War, as contained in paragraph 46 (c) of its Final Document (CCW/P.V/CONF/2008/12), the discussions on Cooperation and Assistance and Requests for Assistance, pursuant to Articles 7 and 8 of the Protocol, were coordinated by Mr. Gyula Somogyi of Hungary.

- (ii) The funds required for this option are the following: [Under consideration with OCHA developers.]

(b) Option II:

- (i) Subscription to a pre-set framework system, which includes all the basic required features of the proposed system but needs customization with the involvement of software engineers. The data part of the system would be hosted by third party servers, but the user interface which includes the visible part of the WISP.V would be deployed to the CCW website inside the UN system. All required technical maintenance and hardware elements are included in the subscription.
- (ii) The funds required for this option are the following:
  - Customization of the framework: US\$ 11.000–13.000
  - Yearly subscription: US\$ 2200 (special UN pricing and yearly payment would mean additional discounts, approximately 15-20%)

(c) Option III:

- (i) Purchase of a framework system which includes most of the modules of the proposed system but lacks the most important feature: the on-line web forms and the report making feature which is essential to the WISP.V. The missing features require special development, including additional software packages and human resources. The system would be hosted by UN servers, which require hardware development in order to be able to serve the users and technical maintenance.
- (ii) The funds required for this option are the following: Lotus Quick R: CHF 36 000, plus developing of on-line forms [price is under consideration]

## II. REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

4. At the 2009 Meeting of Experts, the Coordinator evaluated the template of the Formats for Request for Assistance and the use of the templates, which were adopted in 2008 by the Second Conference of the High Contracting Parties. The Coordinator would like to thank the States (Belarus, Serbia and Ukraine) that have made use of the Formats for Request for Assistance. The analysis of these requests clearly showed that various ERW-related needs are rising and have become visible to potential donor countries. It is somehow regrettable that until now none of these needs have matching resources.

5. Based on the evaluation of the use of the template, in particular, the very high number of listed needs, the Coordinator would like to propose that the Formats for Request for Assistance be amended and the following two additional columns be introduced to the Form B (Appraisal of needs):

- (a) “Priority” column: This would enable potential donors to identify those needs, which are of priority according to the requesting country.
- (b) “Completed program” column: This would enable to mark those programs, which are now completed and requires no more attention from possible donors. This column will make its best use when used in the WISP.V system.

### III. COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

6. The Republic of Hungary, as the Coordinator for Cooperation and Assistance, organized an ERW related workshop in Budapest in June 2009 called the Budapest ERW Workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to initiate cooperation among Explosive Ordnance Experts. Fourteen countries and two organizations were represented by twenty experts. During the two-day workshop the Hungarian Defense Forces First Warship and EOD battalion hosted several implementation-oriented lectures. The participants visited three locations where EOD export training programs and ERW demolition techniques were demonstrated and discussed.

7. The Coordinator will produce an awareness raising film using video footage recorded during the Budapest ERW Workshop, as well as various interviews with Protocol V officeholders and relevant organizations engaged in ERW-related activities. The film will be replicated by the CCW Secretariat and will be submitted to all UN Member States and make available for broadcasting in relevant places.

8. Against this background, the Coordinator recommends that the Third Conference of the High Contracting Parties takes the following decisions:

- (a) On the ERW Database: to approve the proposed amendments to the Formats for Requests for Assistance, as proposed in paragraph 5;
  - (b) On the WISP.V information system: to start the development of the WISP.V system based on one of the options as contained in paragraph 3.
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