

**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**

27 September 2010

Original: English

Geneva, 22 - 23 November 2010

Item 13 of the provisional agenda

Report(s) of any subsidiary organ(s)

REPORT ON NATIONAL REPORTING

**Submitted by the Coordinator¹ on National reporting,
pursuant to article 10, paragraph 2 (b) of the Protocol,
and article 4 Generic Electronic Template**

**I. Organization and work of the 2010 Meeting of Experts on the issue of
National reporting**

1. Pursuant to the relevant decisions of the Third Conference of the High Contracting Parties to CCW Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War, as contained in paragraphs 46 to 48 of its Final Document (CCW/P.V/CONF/2009/9), the 2010 Meeting of Experts was mandated to continue to evaluate the reporting mechanism, including the Reporting Formats referred to in paragraphs 24 to 28 of the Final Document of the First Conference of the High Contracting Parties and the “Guide to National Reporting under CCW Protocol V”, as approved and recommended for use by the Fourth Conference, in light of the experience from the reports to be submitted by 31 March 2010, and to make recommendations on the above for consideration by the Fourth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V.

2. During the 2010 Meeting of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V (21-23 April 2010), the Coordinator built on the outcome of the 2009 Meeting of Experts (22-24 April 2009). In particular, the Coordinator had presented a discussion paper no.4 titled “National reporting under CCW Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War” to serve as a basis for the deliberations on this topic.

¹ In accordance with the relevant decision of the Third Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War, as contained in paragraph 54 (e) of its Final Document (CCW/P.V/CONF/2009/9) the discussions on national reporting, pursuant to article 10, paragraph 2 (b) of the Protocol and on article 4 generic electronic template were coordinated by Mr. Henrik Markuš of Slovakia.

3. The following elements were pointed out during the consideration of this issue:
 - (a) Comprehensive consideration of the national reporting pursuant to article 10, paragraph 2 (b) of the Protocol was made at the 2009 Meeting of Experts (22-24 April 2009), at the “Guide to National Reporting under CCW Protocol V” was produced and recommended for use;
 - (b) There was a relatively low number of returns of the annual reports by the time of the 2010 Meeting of Experts (44%). The High Contracting Parties were encouraged to make their submissions by the Fourth Conference of the High Contracting Parties and to take advantage of the guide;
 - (c) Compliance with the requirement of submitting the initial national report and its updates on a yearly basis is an indicator of the level of commitment to the objectives and purpose of the Protocol.
4. Subsequently, a number of High Contracting Parties expressed the following views:
 - (a) the guide represents a useful tool for the transparency reporting requirements under Protocol V;
 - (b) no immediate amendments should be made to the guide before sufficient experience has been gathered on its use by the High Contracting Parties in the form approved by the Third Conference.

II. Recommendations

5. It is recommended that the Fourth Conference of the High Contracting Parties takes the following decisions:
 - (a) To adopt the “Guide to National Reporting under CCW Protocol V”, as contained in CCW/P.V/CONF/2009/4/Add.1, dated 26 October 2009, and CCW/P.V/CONF/2009/4/Add.1/Corr.1, dated 4 November 2009, as a document representing a check list of questions to be used as a tool at the discretion of the High Contracting Parties to facilitate the filling-out of the forms of the national reporting under Protocol V by providing the information referred to in paragraphs 24 to 28 of the Final Document of the First Conference of the High Contracting Parties.
 - (b) To reiterate the recommendation to the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V (and observer States submitting their national reports on a voluntary basis) to use the guide in order to provide the above-mentioned information in the most comprehensive way possible.
 - (c) To continue to evaluate the reporting mechanism, including the reporting formats referred to in paragraphs 24 to 28 of the Final Document of the First Conference of the High Contracting Parties and “The Guide to National Reporting under CCW Protocol V”; and to request the 2011 Meeting of Experts to make recommendations on the above for consideration by the Fifth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V.
 - (d) To encourage the High Contracting Parties to comply with the requirement of submitting initial National reports and their annual updates and to invite the observer States to provide national reports on a voluntary basis.
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