

**Meeting of the High Contracting Parties 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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Item 8 of the provisional agenda

Mines other than anti-personnel mines (MOTAPM)

**Report of the 2012 Meeting of Experts on Mines other than
anti-personnel mines (MOTAPM)**

1. The Fourth Review Conference 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 (CCW) held from 14 to 25 November 2011 in Geneva decided as contained in Decision 1, Part II of its Final Report (CCW/CONF.IV/4/Add.1), as follows:

“to convene an open-ended meeting of experts, under the overall responsibility of the Chairperson-designate of the 2012 Meeting of High Contracting Parties to the Convention, of three days in 2012 to discuss further the implementation of international humanitarian law with regard to mines other than anti-personnel mines, and to submit a report to the 2012 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention”

Subsequently, the Chairperson-designate of the 2012 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, Mr. Jesus S. Domingo of the Philippines, appointed Lt. Col. Jim Burke of Ireland, as Friend of the Chair on mines other than anti-personnel mines (MOTAPM).

2. The Fourth Review Conference also decided that the open-ended meeting of experts would be held from 2 to 4 April 2012 in Geneva, as contained in Decision 5, paragraph 1(v) of Part II, of its Final Document (CCW/CONF.IV/Add.1).

3. The following High Contracting Parties to the Convention participated in the work of the meeting: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lithuania, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

4. The following Signatory State to the Convention also participated in the work of the meeting: Egypt.

5. The following States not parties to the Convention participated as observers: Bahrain, Indonesia, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya and Namibia.

6. The representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) participated in the work of the meeting.

7. The representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) participated in the work of the meeting. The representatives of the European Union and Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) also participated in the work of the meeting.

8. The representatives of the following non-governmental organizations also participated in the work of the meeting: Geneva Call, International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munition Coalition (ICBL-CMC), Mines Advisory Group (MAG) and Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD).

9. On Monday 2 April 2012, the meeting was opened by Ambassador Gancho Ganev of Bulgaria, President of the Fourth Review Conference. Subsequently, the meeting was chaired by Mr. Jim Burke, Lt. Col., as Friend of the Chair on MOTAPM.

10. In accordance with its Programme of Work, as contained in the annex, the meeting of experts had interactive exchanges on the following issues: the current status of international humanitarian law on MOTAPM; measures taken by States in addition to existing international humanitarian law (IHL); humanitarian impact of MOTAPM use; national policies on the use of MOTAPM; possible measures to address the humanitarian impact of MOTAPM use; and the way forward. As part of the discussion on possible measures to address the humanitarian impact of MOTAPM use, the following issues based on the 'Food-for-thought on Mines Other Than Anti-Personnel Mines (MOTAPM)' paper (CCW/MSP/2012/3) were also considered:

- (i) Facilitation of effective clearance, including through the use of MOTAPM which can be detected by commonly available mine detection equipment;
- (ii) Deploying MOTAPM with a limited operational lifespan (e.g. MOTAPM equipped with self-destruction or self-neutralisation mechanisms and self-deactivation back-up features);
- (iii) Limitations on the use of remotely delivered MOTAPM;
- (iv) Protection of civilians and role of perimeter-marked areas;
- (v) Monitoring and security of minefields containing MOTAPM;
- (vi) Warnings to civilians;
- (vii) The use of anti-handling devices on MOTAPM;
- (viii) Ensuring that MOTAPM fuzes are not activated inadvertently by the presence, proximity or contact of a person;
- (ix) Addressing the rights and needs of victims of MOTAPM;
- (x) The role of international cooperation and assistance;
- (xi) Possible measures to address the use of MOTAPM by non-State actors;
- (xii) Possible measures to control or restrict transfers of MOTAPM;
- (xiii) Transparency and confidence building measures; and

- (xiv) Any other measure to address the humanitarian impact arising from MOTAPM use.

11. The meeting of experts commenced with a general exchange of views and the following States participated: Argentina, Australia, Belarus, Brazil, China, Cuba, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Lithuania, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland and United States of America. The representatives of the European Union and UNMAS on behalf of the United Nations Mine Action Team also participated.

12. At the beginning of the session on 'The current status of international humanitarian law on MOTAPM', the ICRC made a presentation titled 'AV Mines: Rules and Challenges'. This was followed by the discussion on 'Measures taken by States in addition to existing IHL'. States intervened in the sessions to put forward their views.

13. During the session on 'Humanitarian impact of MOTAPM use', presentations were made on the Cambodia and Iraq case studies by those two respective delegations. Presentations were also made on:

- 'The use of Mines Other Than Anti Personnel Mines (MOTAPM) Case Study - South Sudan' – UNMAS on behalf of the UN Mine Action Team
- 'The humanitarian impact of mines other than anti-personnel mines (MOTAPM)' – GICHD
- 'The humanitarian impact of mines other than anti-personnel mines' - ICRC

States intervened in the session to put forward their views.

14. During the session on 'National policies on the use of MOTAPM', the following States made statements on their policies on the use of MOTAPM: Australia, Belarus, China, Ecuador, Germany, India, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Russian Federation and United States of America. The United States of America made a presentation on 'Networked Munitions Mine Alternatives'.

15. The following presentations were made during the two sessions on 'Possible measures to address the humanitarian impact of MOTAPM use':

- 'Doctrine on technical improvements from the French point of view' – France
- 'Understanding Detectability' – Australia
- 'MOTAPM Colombia' – Colombia

States intervened in the session to put forward their views.

16. In its final session on 'The Way Forward' delegations discussed the potential for future work on mines other than anti-personnel mines.

17. On Wednesday 4 April 2012, International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, the meeting considered and adopted its report as contained in this document.

Annex

Programme of work

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda Items</i>
Monday, 2 April 2012	10.00 – 13.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening of the meeting of experts• General exchange of views• Current status of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) on MOTAPM• Measures taken by States in addition to existing IHL
	15.00 – 17.00	Humanitarian impact of MOTAPM use
	17.00 – 18.00	Bilateral consultations
Tuesday, 3 April 2012	10.00 – 13.00	National policies on the use of MOTAPM
	15.00 – 17.00	Possible measures to address the humanitarian impact of MOTAPM use
	17.00 – 18.00	Bilateral consultations
Wednesday, 4 April 2012	10.00 – 13.00	Possible measures to address the humanitarian impact of MOTAPM use
	15.00 – 18.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The way forward• Closing of the meeting of experts
