

**GROUP OF GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS OF  
THE STATES 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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**Tenth Session**

**Geneva, 7-11 March 2005**

Item 8 of the agenda

**Mines Other Than Anti-Personnel Mines (MOTAPM)**

Working Group on Mines Other Than Anti-Personnel Mines

**Provisional Agenda for the Meeting of the Military Experts on MOTAPM**

Prepared by the Chairperson of the Meeting of the Military Experts on MOTAPM

**Introduction**

1. The purpose of the Provisional Agenda for the Meeting of the Military Experts on MOTAPM is to facilitate and support the preparatory work of the participating experts. The agenda is based on the paper by the Coordinator on MOTAPM entitled "Proposals and ideas on MOTAPM in the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) with the purpose to provide a basis for further work".
2. The Provisional Agenda covers items of technical and military nature on the issue of MOTAPM to be discussed at the military experts level in order to support and advise the GGE. The aim is to focus on those issues and specific details, which still need to be clarified and have been researched and investigated by some delegations since the Ninth session of the GGE in November 2004.
3. All topics and questions on the agenda were already on the table last year. A lot of progress was achieved during the GGE sessions in July and November 2004, thanks to the valuable presentations and the active participation of all experts. The military experts are approaching a common understanding through hard and constructive work and it is the wish of the Chair that the same spirit of cooperation would continue during the meeting in March.

## Provisional Agenda

1. General principles on the use of MOTAPM:
    - a. Mines should be detectable;
    - b. Mines should have a limited lifespan;
    - c. Minefields should be protected by fencing, marking and/or other means to effectively exclude civilians from straying towards them;
    - d. Minefields should be monitored by the military;
    - e. Minefields should be documented in detail;
    - f. All feasible measures should be taken to protect civilians from moving close to mined areas, such as mine-awareness education and information;
    - g. Non-detectable mines should not be transferred and restraint should be exercised regarding transfers of mines without limited lifespan.
  
  2. Exceptions:
    - a. Non-detectable mines can be used within borderlines etc., when located in a perimeter marked area monitored by military and/or protected by fencing or other means;
    - b. Already emplaced mines are excluded from detectability requirement;
    - c. Newly emplaced mines along borderlines etc. are excluded, if minefield is in a perimeter marked area, monitored by military and/or protected by other means;
    - d. Mines in minefields along borderlines etc. are excluded from limited lifespan, if minefield is in a perimeter marked area, monitored by military and/or protected by other means;
  
  3. Transition periods:
    - a. Detectability and limited lifespan mean technical modifications, new production or change in mining methods and therefore time is needed to meet the new requirements. When shall the transition time commence - by the entry into force of the Protocol or when a State joins the Protocol?
    - b. How to deal with MOTAPM which will stay in stocks, well protected and guarded by the military? Should requirements of detectability and limited lifespan also be applied to those mines?
    - c. The length of the common transition period - the same as in AP II for anti- personnel mines or longer? Should the operational significance and more demanding technical structure have something to say here, in addition to higher costs, modification or new product?
  
  4. Any other issue.
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