

**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**

CCW/GGE/XI/3  
29 July 2005

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**Eleventh Session  
Geneva, 2-12 August 2005**

Item 10 of the Agenda

**Third Review Conference 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**

## **FOOD-FOR-THOUGHT PAPER**

Presented by the Chairperson-designate

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. In accordance with the decision taken by the 2004 Meeting of the States Parties to the CCW (paragraph 28 of document CCW/MSP/2004/2, dated 13 December 2004): “the Chairperson-designate shall undertake consultations during the intersessional period on the preparation of the Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention and shall report to the next Meeting of the States Parties”.

2. This Food-for-Thought paper is intended to facilitate these consultations as well as the establishment of the preparatory process for the Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the CCW, which is scheduled to take place no later than 2006. It is submitted under the personal responsibility of the Chairperson-designate of the 2005 Meeting of the States Parties to the CCW as a follow-up of the paper entitled "Food-for-Thought Paper" (document CCW/GGE/X/4, dated 4 March 2005).

### **II. ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES**

3. Since all substantive (review of the scope and operation of CCW) or procedural issues (Rules of Procedure, structure of the Conference etc.) should normally be dealt with by the forum assigned to undertake the preparatory work of the Conference, the purpose of the present consultations should be to seek the preliminary views of the CCW States Parties on several organizational points, as follows:

(a) Time of the Review Conference: A possible time slot for holding the Review Conference in the fall of next year could be between 6 and 17 November 2006<sup>1</sup>. This will allow sufficient time for preparation of the Review Conference. The final decision for the timing of the Conference has to be taken in November by the Meeting of the States Parties to the CCW.

(b) Venue of the Review Conference: In the absence of other suggestions the Review Conference will take place in Geneva - a city closely associated with the CCW process for many years now.

(c) Structure, commencement, timing and duration of the preparatory process: The views expressed so far are in favour of the establishment of a separate preparatory process (a Preparatory Committee - PrepCom) synchronized with the existing mechanism (the Group of Governmental Experts - GGE) as the issues dealt with in the two respective fora differ both from a procedural and a substantive perspective. If such an approach is agreed upon by the 2005 CCW States Parties in November, then the sessions of the PrepCom could be held back-to-back with the meetings of the GGE in 2006, as follows:

- (i) Thirteenth session of the GGE & First PrepCom: one week in March 2006
- (ii) Fourteenth session of the GGE & Second PrepCom: one or two weeks in June 2006
- (iii) Fifteenth session of the GGE & Third PrepCom: one week in September 2006

The 2005 Meeting of the States Parties shall also determine the duration of the sessions of the GGE/PrepCom, taking into account the workload of the GGE in 2006 and the approximate time needed for the adequate preparation of the Review Conference.

(d) Presidency of the Review Conference: It is expected that the President-designate of the Review Conference shall also preside over the preparatory process and the regional groups are requested to begin subsequent consultations on the designation of the future President.

(e) Universalization of the CCW and its Protocols: Maximum effort should be exerted at the CCW Review Conference and its preparatory process with a view of promoting the universalization of the Convention and all its protocols. Against this background, different measures may be envisaged, such as the adoption of an Appeal by the 2005 Meeting of the States Parties (similar to those adopted each year by the Annual Conferences of the States Parties to CCW Amended Protocol II), or the holding of regional conferences/seminars on the Convention and its protocols or on issues that are subject to the discussion in the CCW GGE.

(f) Any other issue relevant to this Agenda item.

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<sup>1</sup> A few days during this time slot will be allocated for the Eighth Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II (pursuant to Article 13 of AP II), and, most likely, for the First Conference of the States Parties to Protocol V on ERW (pursuant to Article 10 of P V).

Annex**STRUCTURE AND PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE CCW PROCESS****I. UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS OF USE OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS**

*Geneva, 10-28 September 1979*

*Geneva, 15 September – 10 October 1980*

President: Oluyemi Adeniji (Nigeria)

Vice-Presidents: Colombia, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jamaica (replaced later by Argentina), Mexico, Sweden, USSR, United States of America, Yugoslavia and Zaire.

**II. FIRST REVIEW CONFERENCE**

1. Group of Governmental Experts, established by the UN Secretary-General to prepare the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the CCW

*First Session: Geneva, 28 February – 4 March 1994*

*Second session: Geneva, 16 - 27 May 1994*

*Third session: Geneva, 8-19 August 1994*

*Fourth session: Geneva, 9-20 January 1995*

Chair: Johan Molander (Sweden)

Vice Chairmen: C. Narain (India), P. Poptchev (Bulgaria)

2. First Review Conference of the States Parties to the CCW

*First Phase of the Review Conference: Vienna, 25 September - 13 October 1995*

*First Resumed Session: Geneva, 15 - 19 January 1996*

*Second Resumed Session: Geneva, 22 April - 3 May 1996*

President: Johan Molander (Sweden)

Vice-Presidents: Austria, China, France, India, Mexico, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Tunisia, Ukraine and United States of America

**III. SECOND REVIEW CONFERENCE**

1. Preparatory Committee

*First Session: Geneva, 14 December 2000*

*Second Session: Geneva, 2 - 6 April 2001*

*Informal open-ended consultations: Geneva, 27 – 31 August 2001*

*Third Session: Geneva, 24 - 28 September 2001*

Chair of the First PrepCom: Henrik Salander (Sweden),

Chair of the Second and the Third PrepCom: Les Luck (Australia)

2. Second Review Conference  
*Geneva, 11-21 December 2001*

President: Les Luck (Australia)

Vice-Presidents: Bangladesh, China, Croatia, France, Mexico, Poland, Slovakia, South Africa, Switzerland and United States of America

#### **IV. MEETINGS OF THE STATES PARTIES**

1. Group of Governmental Experts

*First Session: Geneva, 21-24 May 2002*

*Second Session: Geneva, 15-26 July 2002*

*Third Session: Geneva, 2-10 December 2002*

*Fourth Session: Geneva, 10-14 March 2003*

*Fifth Session: Geneva, 16-27 June 2003*

*Sixth Session: Geneva, 17-24 November 2003*

Chair: Rakesh Sood (India)

Coordinators: Chris Sanders (Netherlands) on Explosive Remnants of War and Peter Kolarov (Bulgaria) on Mines Other Than Anti-Personnel Mines

*Seventh Session: Geneva, 8-12 March 2004*

*Eighth Session: Geneva, 5-16 July 2004*

*Ninth Session: Geneva, 8-16 November 2004*

*Tenth Session: Geneva, 7-11 March 2005*

*Eleventh Session: Geneva, 2-12 August 2005*

[...]

Chair: Gordan Markotic (Croatia)

Coordinators: Jayant Prasad (India) on Explosive Remnants of War and Markku Reimaa (Finland) on Mines Other Than Anti-Personnel Mines

2. Meetings of the States Parties

*12 - 13 December 2002*

*27 - 28 November 2003*

Chair: Rakesh Sood (India)

*18 - 19 November 2004*

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Chair: Gordan Markotic (Croatia)

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