

**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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Item 11 of the Agenda
Sponsorship programme

**REVISED DRAFT DECISION
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME
UNDER 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)**

Presented by the President-designate

The Conference of States Parties:

1. *Decides* to establish a sponsorship programme under/*within the framework* of 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);
2. *Agrees* on the following **general principles**:
 - (i) contributions to the programme will be made on a voluntary basis;
 - (ii) this programme will be conducted in an informal and flexible way with full respect to the specific ad hoc nature of the CCW forum;
3. *Sets* the following **basic goals** to the Sponsorship programme:
 - (i) to strengthen the implementation of the Convention and its annexed Protocols;
 - (ii) to promote universal observance of the norms and principles enshrined in the Convention and its annexed Protocols;
 - (iii) to support the universalization of the Convention and its annexed Protocols;
 - (iv) to enhance the cooperation, the exchange of information and the consultations among the States Parties on issues related to the Convention and its annexed Protocols;

4. *Sets* the following **basic operational purposes** to the Sponsorship programme:

- (i) to support the participation of the representatives of States Parties, especially from ERW- and mine-affected States that have limited resources, to participate in the CCW activities. Priority should be given to States Parties which, according to the United Nations, have the world's least developed economies;
- (ii) to provide Signatory States and States not yet parties to the Convention and its Protocols with an opportunity to participate in the CCW activities and to acquire an acquaintance with the work related to the Convention. Preference should be given to States which, according to the UN, have the least developed economies, States which are on the path towards accession to the Convention and its annexed Protocols and States which are engaged in activities related to their own implementation of the Convention and its Protocols;
- (iii) to support the attendance of appropriate qualified experts with field experience or of scholars, particularly from the States referred to in paragraph 4(i), to prepare studies and/or presentations on certain topics of interest at relevant meetings or seminars;
- (iv) to provide other related forms of assistance, that might be deemed appropriate by the States Parties;

5. *Decides* that the Sponsorship programme will operate according to the following **basic operational modalities**:

- (i) States Parties entrust the technical management of the programme to the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining;
 - (ii) An informal Steering Committee (hereinafter “the committee”) will set operational modalities which have not been specified in this decision and ensure the guidance of the day-to-day implementation of the CCW Sponsorship programme; it will be constituted by representatives of donor States to this programme and the UNDDA;
 - (iii) The Committee will operate in a transparent way; for this purpose, representatives of the three Regional Groups, and China, the President-designate of the CCW and representatives of UNMAS will be invited to participate to its meetings as observers;
 - (iv) The Committee will take all decisions related to the operation of the Sponsorship programme, including the granting of travel and daily subsistence allowances for participation in the CCW activities or to other expenditures, in accordance with the basic goals and the operational purposes of the programme as spelt out above;
 - (v) The Committee will report annually on its activities, including on the beneficiaries of the programme, to the CCW States Parties;
 - (vi) The funds allocated to the Sponsorship programme will be subject to an audit by an external auditor and audit reports will be sent to all members of the Committee, and made available upon request to any State Party by the United Nations.
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