
Fourth Review Conference 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 17 November 2011
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Item 3 of the agenda

Consideration of the scope and operation of the Convention and its annexed protocols

**Draft
Decision of the High Contracting Parties Regarding the Meetings of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons**

Submitted by Canada

1. At the XX Plenary Meeting of the Fourth Review Conference of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons on [date], High Contracting Parties decided that the following factors must be considered when High Contracting Parties take decisions regarding the frequency and duration of both the informal and formal meetings of the Convention.

(a) Expected outcomes for Conferences and Meetings of High Contracting Parties will be identified in advance of the respective meeting by the responsible Presidency.

(b) Conferences and Meetings of High Contracting Parties will be scheduled for the minimum time necessary to achieve their respective objectives;

(c) Conferences and Meetings of High Contracting Parties will focus on compliance, implementation and universalization of the Convention, while providing sufficient flexibility to undertake new work;

(d) Review Conferences will be scheduled for the minimum time necessary to achieve their objectives. The frequency of such Conferences will be commensurate with the need to conduct comprehensive reviews of the Convention and its Protocols;

(e) Group of Governmental Expert Meetings will be limited to negotiating new Protocols, to negotiating amendments to Protocols, to undertake an examination or discussion of issues with a view to preparing for potential negotiations, or to preparing for Review Conferences. Such meetings will be scheduled for the minimum amount of time necessary to achieve their objectives;

(f) Expert Meetings under the CCW will be limited in frequency and duration in the context of individual Protocols, and will only be scheduled for the minimum amount of time necessary to achieve their objectives;

(g) When considering the need for, or the duration of, a meeting, consideration will be given to the role that the Implementation Support Unit can play to mitigate the necessity for and/or length of such a meeting, through the proper use of its expertise.

2. The High Contracting Parties further decided that the above factors would not be applied against meetings undertaken directly in response to an agreed negotiating mandate.
