



MINUTES OF THE CCM COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Tuesday 27 June 2017

at the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany, from 15:00 – 16:30 hours

1. Present:

Germany - 7MSP President

H.E. Michael Biontino

Mr. Toralf Pilz

Australia

Mr. Hugh Watson

Costa Rica

Ms. Maricela Muñoz

Croatia

Ms. Ines Sprem Scigliano

France

Ms. Camille Guffet

Iraq

Mr. Emad Al-Juhaishi

Italy

Dr. Silvia Cattaneo

Mexico

Mr. Víctor Martínez

The Netherlands

Ms. Sachi Claringbould

Norway

Mr. Magnus Løvold

Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC)

Ms. Amélie Chayer

UNODA

Ms. Silvia Mercogliano

Secretariat ISU-CCM

Ms. Sheila Mweemba

Mr. Matthieu Laruelle

Ms. Elaine Weiss

Apologies received

Bosnia and Herzegovina

New Zealand

Switzerland

Zambia

ICRC

Apologies not received

Chile

2. Opening Remarks by the President

President of the Seventh Meeting of States Parties (7MSP), Ambassador Michael Biontino of the Federal Republic of Germany, opened the 6th Coordination Committee meeting of 2017 with a warm welcome to all the Committee members.

3. Approval of the Minutes of 16 May 2017

The Committee approved without corrections the draft Minutes of the Coordination Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 16 May 2017 as a correct record of what had been discussed and agreed to during that meeting.

4. Update from the 7MSP Presidency

Ambassador Biontino provided an update on the three key activities undertaken by the Presidency since the last Meeting:

4.1 RACVIAC Seminar

The Presidency reported that the workshop on *Enhancing Implementation of Articles 3 & 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions in South East Europe: the country coalition concept*, which took place at the Centre for Security Cooperation (RACVIAC) in Rakitje, Croatia on 12 to 13 June 2017, was very successful although attendance by both donor States and States in the region was lower than expected. Ambassador Biontino took the opportunity to thank Australia and the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) wholeheartedly for their excellent presentations and suggested that they used the same presentations in a possible side event during the 7MSP. He added that the RACVIAC report which had been finalized and shared with H.E. Ambassador Berk, Director of Centre would be circulated. The President expressed his gratitude towards Ambassador Berk for the hospitality and the excellent facilities which greatly contributed to the success of the workshop. Finally, he thanked the ISU-CCM for assisting the Presidency in organizing the workshop.

4.2 Land Release Workshop

The Presidency reminded the meeting that the Land Release workshop on 7 June 2017 was one of the joint activities agreed upon during the informal meeting on synergies between the CCM and APMBC Presidencies and ISUs held in Geneva in February 2017 in an effort to forge practical examples of synergies. He reported that the workshop, which was co-hosted by the CCM and APMBC Presidencies with the support of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), attracted a substantial number of participants who

contributed to high quality discussions. The Presidency shared that the main conclusion from the exchanges at the workshop was that non-technical surveys were an efficient and cost-effective method in removing weapons contamination; and that such an event could serve as a blueprint for other initiatives on common issues across Conventions.

4.3 Structured Dialogue

The President informed the meeting that the idea of organizing an event focusing on a military-to-military dialogue stemmed from the “Structured Dialogue” held with seventeen States not Party. He confirmed that a workshop on military-to-military dialogue would be held on 10 August 2017 and that invitations had already been sent out. He notified that there had been two confirmations thus far—Latvia and Poland—and that the event would only be held if a minimum of five States confirmed their attendance. He reiterated that engaging with States not Party was a challenging but worthwhile endeavor and that he would not be discouraged even if the event in August did not materialize as long as continuous engagement kept taking place.

5. Updates by the Thematic Coordinators on their work up to the 7MSP

5.1 International Cooperation and Assistance (Australia and Iraq)

Australia, speaking on behalf of the two thematic Coordinators, reported that the second closed informal meeting on *Enhancing International Cooperation and Assistance under the CCM* took place on 9 June 2017 in the margins of the APMBC intersessional meetings with the participation of the CCM Presidency and representatives of six affected States and States with impending deadlines under the Convention and ten donor States. He pointed out that the meeting was a follow up to the first one held on 8 February 2017 in the margins of the 20th International Meeting of National Mine Action Programme Directors and United Nations Advisers (NDM-UN). The Coordinator highlighted that the meeting focused on the “country coalition concept” and ways to operationalize the approach. He added that there was strong support for a side event at the next Meeting of States Parties focusing on a specific country, similar to the Sudan initiative that was presented at a side event under the APMBC.

Australia informed that one valuable feedback from the participants on the role of the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance at the second informal meeting was that it would be beneficial to organize another closed meeting for only invited affected States or States with impending deadlines under the CCM to allow for open discussions on the challenges and needs they faced. The Coordinator further reported that Iraq and Australia were working on a summary of the meeting which would be circulated to all participants once finalized for their feedback. The Coordinators conveyed their gratitude to

the Presidency for providing a presentation at the meeting and to the ISU for its support in organizing the event.

In concluding, Australia inquired of the President opinion on the possibility of hosting a broader side event on the country coalition concept. While thanking the Coordinator for its suggestion, the President explained that the Presidency would be supportive if others took and duplicated the concept. In the same vein, he notified the meeting that the Presidency would not have the capacity to be the principal organizer of such an event as it would be busy with the 7MSP itself and encouraged the Coordinators to consider hosting such an event.

5.2 Victim Assistance (Chile and Italy)

Italy informed the meeting of its pleasure to have received one additional response from the Republic of Montenegro to the letters the Coordinators had sent on 30 January 2017 to request for more information on progress with regard to the development of a national disability action plan or a national action plan for victim assistance. Italy reported that the response arrived in good time for the Coordinators to include the newly disclosed information into their progress report.

5.3 Universalization (France and Zambia)

France, reporting on behalf of Coordinators on Universalization, informed the meeting that nine African Signatory States and new State Party Madagascar had participated in a very successful CCM Ratification Seminar held in Kampala, Uganda, on 29 - 30 May 2017. France expressed its appreciation to the ISU for its invaluable support in organizing the seminar and highlighted that France and Zambia would continue delivering demarches to Signatory States so that ratification could be achieved soon. France further informed the meeting that the Coordinators had the opportunity during the APMBC intersessional meetings to interact with representatives of States that were Party to the APMBC, but not to the CCM, in order to promote the universalization of the CCM. In addition a short statement had been made during the intersessionals calling for States not party to join the Convention.

5.4 Stockpile Destruction (Croatia and Mexico)

Mexico, speaking on behalf of the Coordinators on Stockpile Destruction, reported that the Coordinators had sent letters to three States Parties (Bulgaria, Guinea-Bissau and South Africa) with Article 3 obligations and outstanding Article 7 reports. However, the Coordinators were still waiting to hear back from the three states.

5.5 Clearance and Risk Reduction Education (Netherlands and Norway)

Norway, speaking on behalf of the Coordinators on Clearance and Risk Reduction Education, reported that they were currently exploring the idea of convening a second clearance workshop on the model of the Lebanon workshop organized in November 2016. The Coordinator explained that the idea would be to focus on another geographical area and bring together key stakeholders to focus on Article 4 implementation. He concluded by informing that one option would be to hold such a workshop in the Balkans.

The President welcomed the initiative and proposed that the Coordinators use RACVIAC as a venue for the workshop. Norway thanked the Ambassador for the idea and requested for some time for the Coordinators to consider that before making a commitment to it.

5.6 Transparency Measures (Costa Rica)

Costa Rica, Coordinator for Transparency Measures, expressed its appreciation to UNODA and the ISU for supporting its work by keeping track of Article 7 Reports being submitted. She informed the meeting that as on that day, only 44 Article 7 reports had been submitted. The Coordinator undertook to continue to update the reporting rates for the 7MSP Progress Report until 30th June and thereafter to monitor the submission of transparency reports until the 7MSP.

In concluding this segment of the Meeting, Ambassador Biontino thanked all the Coordinators wholeheartedly for all their informative updates.

6. Looking ahead to the 7th Meeting of States Parties (7MSP)

The President cordially invited the ISU-CCM Director to provide an update on the status of preparations of the documentation for the 7MSP. The Director notified the Meeting that seven out of the nine documents to be submitted for translation had already been transmitted to UNODA and that *the Annotated Programme of Work* would be submitted the next day as scheduled with no changes made. She reminded the meeting that the Progress Report was due to be submitted to UNODA on Monday 3 July 2017 and any changes to the report would need to be made before that date. To this end, she informed the meeting that she would circulate the final version of the Progress Report on Friday 30 June for final comments.

Ambassador Biontino thanked the Director for her update and expressed his satisfaction that all the documentation for the 7MSP was on track. While highlighting the key role of Coordinators during the 7MSP, the President proposed to discuss roles and responsibilities,

the matrix of 7MSP activities, as well as organizational issues during the next Coordination Committee meeting in August.

The Ambassador then invited the UNODA representative to provide an update on preparations for the 7MSP. UNODA confirmed that it had received seven out of the nine documents to be submitted by the ISU prior to 30 June in line with the documentation forecast agreed with the ISU. She also informed the Meeting that the translation of the Provisional Agenda and the Implementation Support Unit 2018 Work Plan and Budget had been finalized and would be made available on the UNOG website.

UNODA further explained that according to UN Conference Services the documentation load forecast exceeded the cost estimate approved by the 6MSP. She added that the actual number of pages submitted for translation would only be known after the submission of all 7MSP documents. She further indicated that the approximate difference could be an additional 25 pages more than forecasted and that their translation into the 6 UN languages would cost an estimated extra USD 29'000, an amount already available in the CCM fund.

Contributing to the discussion, the CCM-ISU stated that the increased number of pages were due to one-time documents such as the 'Report on the Review of Financial Procedures for the Financing of the ISU' and 'Report on the Exploration of Synergies of the ISUs' that would likely not be reproduced for the 8MSP.

Adding to the discussion, the Netherlands shared its opinion that it would be preferable in the future to foresee a higher budget in order to make sure that funding was available. UNODA responded by clarifying that estimates were always made based on past practices.

The President thanked both the Director and UNODA for the updates.

7. Update on the search for 8MSP President

The President informed the meeting that he still had not identified a successor to take up the presidency of the 8MSP though he had held consultations with close to a dozen States. Ambassador Biontino added that he would make it a priority to approach more States with regards to this matter after the summer break. He made an appeal to the Meeting for a State to volunteer and/or help identify a potential candidate. In encouraging Coordinators in this task, he shared that the Presidency was not a daunting task to perform owing to factors such as the commendable support provided by the ISU-CCM, the work done by previous Presidencies, the abundance of resources and the gratifying aspect of the work.

8. Update on ISU-CCM finances

The ISU-CCM Director reported to the Meeting that since the last update, one additional State Party had made a financial contribution of CHF 16'584.98, bringing the number of States Parties that had paid their 2017 ISU budget contribution to 34. The Director further elaborated that thus far, the 34 States Parties had contributed a total of CHF 311'922.54 and this amount was approximately 68% of the 2017 ISU budget.

In reacting to the Director's update, the President suggested that letters be sent out to major donor States with outstanding contributions after the summer break to remind them to pay towards the financing of the ISU. The Director informed that she had already started sending out the letters to those States that had yet to contribute to the 2017 ISU budget. The President kindly offered his assistance should the Director require any.

9. Any other business

Update from the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC)

The CMC representative informed the meeting that on 13 June 2017, the UN Security Council held a general debate on the role of comprehensive Mine Action and that in this context the full implementation of the CCM had been mentioned. It was further reported that the Security Council was still working on a resolution.

10. Date of the Next CC Meeting

It was agreed that two Coordination Committee meetings would be held in the run up to the 7MSP during the weeks of 14 - 19 and 28 - 31 August. The President concluded by stating that the exact date and time of the meetings would be officially confirmed and communicated at the beginning of August.

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