

Provisional Agenda

Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention in 2016

(as recommended by the 2015 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention at its fourth plenary meeting on 13 November 2015)

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Confirmation of the nomination of the President-designate
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Adoption of the rules of procedure
5. Confirmation of the nomination of the Secretary-General of the Conference
6. Organisation of work including that of the subsidiary bodies of the Conference
7. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the Review Conference, Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the main Committees, the Drafting Committee, and the Credentials Committee
8. Appointment of the Credentials Committee
9. Submission of the report of the Preparatory Committee
10. General exchange of views
11. Review of the scope and operation of the Convention and its annexed protocols
12. Consideration of any proposal for the Convention and its existing protocols
13. Consideration of proposals for additional protocols to the Convention and other proposals
14. Report of the Credentials Committee
15. Reports of the Main Committees
16. Report of the Drafting Committee
17. Other matters
18. Consideration and adoption of the final documents
19. Closing of the Conference

20. The Meeting noted the concerns raised by a number of High Contracting Parties over the allegations of use of incendiary weapons against civilians.

21. The Meeting noted the concerns raised by some High Contracting Parties regarding the implementation of existing international humanitarian law, in particular the use of explosive weapons in populated areas.

34. The Meeting noted that some High Contracting Parties questioned the usefulness of the summary records with regard to their cost. Also, reference was made to the importance of maintaining the summary records. The President-designate of the Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention will conduct informal consultations prior to the Fifth Review Conference in order to find a solution acceptable to all High Contracting Parties.

35. The Meeting decided to convene an informal meeting of experts of up to five days during the week of 11 to 15 April 2016 to discuss further the questions related to emerging technologies in the area of lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS), in the context of the objectives and purposes of the Convention. The Chairperson of the meeting of experts will submit a report in his personal capacity to the 2016 Fifth Review Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Convention. The meeting of experts may agree by consensus on recommendations for further work for consideration by the 2016 Fifth Review Conference.

36. Following consultations conducted by the Chairperson, taking into account the principle of geographical rotation, the Meeting decided to designate Ambassador Michael Biontino of Germany as Chairperson of the 2016 Meeting of Experts on LAWS and adopted the estimated costs (CCW/MSP/2015/7).

37. The Meeting decided to designate Ambassador Tehmina Janjua of Pakistan, as President of the Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention.

38. The Meeting decided that:

(a) The meeting of experts of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War will be held from 6 to 7 April 2016 in Geneva;

(b) The group of experts of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II will be held from 7 to 8 April 2016 in Geneva;

(c) The meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Fifth Review Conference will be held from 31 August to 2 September in Geneva, under the responsibility of the President-designate of the Fifth Review Conference, and adopted its cost estimates (CCW/MSP/2015/8/Add.3);¹

(d) The Tenth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War will be held on 29 August 2016 in Geneva;

(e) The Eighteenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II will be held on 30 August 2016 in Geneva; and

(f) The Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention will be held from 12 to 16 December 2016 in Geneva and adopted its estimated costs (CCW/MSP/2015/8/Add.2).

¹Best efforts have been made by the Secretariat to avoid an overlap in the disarmament calendar, but despite these efforts no other dates are possible.