

**Meeting 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**

12 November 2015

English only

2015 Session

Geneva, 12–13 November 2015

Item 15 of the provisional agenda

Consideration and adoption of the final report

**Draft
Final Report**

I. Introduction

1. The 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 (CCW) agreed to An Accelerated Plan of Action on Universalization of the Convention and its annexed Protocols, as contained in annex I of its final declaration (final document, part II, CCW/CONF.IV/4/Add.1), and, in accordance with action 9 of the Accelerated Plan of Action, to request “the CCW Implementation Support Unit to continue to report annually to the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties on the efforts undertaken towards and progress made on universalization.” Furthermore, action 10 of the Accelerated Plan of Action stipulates that “Universalization of the Convention and its Protocols” should be established as “a standing agenda item of the annual Meetings of the High Contracting Parties under which the Chairperson-designate, High Contracting Parties, United Nations, International Committee of the Red Cross, regional organizations would exchange information and report on their respective efforts to promote universalization.”

2. The Fourth Review Conference also decided, as contained in decision 3 of the final declaration, “to continue the Sponsorship Programme and urge it to explore all options to promote the universalization and implementation of the Convention and its annexed Protocols in accordance with the recommendations contained in annex II of the final declaration.”

3. The Fourth Review Conference also decided, as contained in decision 4 of the final declaration, “to enhance the implementation of the Compliance Mechanism for the Convention and its annexed Protocols, which was agreed to at the Third Review Conference and the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention in 2007 in accordance with the recommendations as contained in annex III.”

4. The Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva on 13 and 14 November 2014, requested, as contained in paragraph 34 of its final document, CCW/MSP/2014/9, “the CCW Implementation Support Unit to continue to report annually on its activities, including on its estimated costs and actual costs.”

GE.15-19854(E)



Please recycle



5 The 2014 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention decided, as contained in paragraph 36 of its final document, "to convene under the overall responsibility of the Chairperson an informal meeting of experts of up to five days during the week of 13 to 17 April 2015 to discuss the questions related to emerging technologies in the area of lethal autonomous weapons systems, in the context of the objectives and purposes of the Convention. The Chair of the Meeting of Experts will, under his or her responsibility, submit a report to the 2015 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, objectively reflecting the discussions held."

6 The 2014 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention decided, as contained in paragraph 37(a) of its final document, to hold the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention in Geneva on 12 and 13 November 2015.

7 The 2014 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention decided, as contained in paragraph 38 of its final document, to designate Mr. Ravinatha P. Aryasinha, Ambassador of Sri Lanka, as Chairperson of the 2015 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention.

II. Organization of the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties

8 The Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention was held in Geneva on 12 and 13 November 2015. The Meeting was opened on 12 November 2015 by Mr. JerzyBurski, Deputy Permanent Representative of Poland

9 The Meeting held four plenary meetings. At its first plenary session, the Meeting confirmed the nomination of Ambassador Ravinatha P. Aryasinha as Chairperson.

10 At the same plenary session, the Meeting confirmed the nomination of Mr. Marco Kalbusch, Officer-in-Charge of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, Geneva Branch, as Secretary-General of the Meeting. Ms. Hine-Wai Loose, CCW Implementation Support Unit, served as Secretary of the Meeting.

11 The following High Contracting Parties to the Convention participated in the work of the Meeting: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia.

12 The following signatory States participated in the work of the Meeting: Egypt, Nigeria, Sudan and Viet Nam.

13 The following observer delegations participated in the work of the Meeting: Azerbaijan, Côte d'Ivoire, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Mozambique, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Zimbabwe.

14 The representatives of the following organizations participated in the work of the Meeting: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), United

Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), European Union, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the League of Arab States.

15. The following non-governmental organizations participated in the work of the Meeting: Article 36, Association for Aid and Relief (AAR) Japan, Facing Finance e.V., Human Rights Watch, International Campaign to Ban Landmines–Cluster Munition Coalition (ICBL-CMC), International Committee for Robot Arms Control (ICRAC), Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Open Roboethics Initiative (ORI), Pax, Pax Christi Ireland, Save the Children, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Digger Foundation, Geneva Academy and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

III. Work of the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties

16. The Meeting adopted its agenda (CCW/MSP/2015/1), and programme of work (CCW/MSP/2015/2), and confirmed the rules of procedure (CCW/CONF.IV/2). In confirming the Rules of Procedure the Meeting suspended Rule 3.

17. The Meeting received a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, which was delivered by the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) and Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament, Mr. Michael Møller.

18. The participation in the general exchange of views was in the following order: Argentina, European Union, Finland, Republic of Korea, Germany, Nicaragua, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Pakistan, Ecuador, Ukraine, Japan, Spain, Sweden, Colombia, Zimbabwe, Italy, Sri Lanka, Bulgaria, France, Ireland, Holy See, Montenegro, Mexico, Austria, United States of America, South Africa, New Zealand, Turkey, Brazil, Algeria, India, Switzerland, Zambia, Israel, Russian Federation, Croatia, Peru, Kazakhstan, Australia, Iraq, Netherlands, Cuba, United Nations Mine Action Service on behalf of the United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action, International Committee of the Red Cross, Article 36, Human Rights Watch, Pax, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

19. The Report on Promoting Universality of the Convention and its Protocols (CCW/MSP/2015/4) was presented by the Chairperson. The Chairperson reported on the implementation of the Accelerated Plan of Action on Universalization of the Convention and its annexed Protocols. The Report of the Sponsorship Programme (CCW/MSP/2015/5) was presented by the Coordinator of the Steering Committee of the Programme, Ms. Markéta Homolková of the Czech Republic. The Meeting welcomed the progress made on universalization of the Convention and its Protocols.

20. [...]

21. [...]

22. The Meeting welcomed the discussions that took place during the Meeting of Experts on lethal autonomous weapons systems and took note of the Chairperson's report (CCW/MSP/2015/3), which was submitted under his own responsibility.

23. The following delegations participated in the discussion on lethal autonomous weapons systems in the following order: [To be completed by the Secretariat.]

24. The following delegations participated in the discussion on other issues relevant to the Convention, including mines other than anti-personnel mine, in the following order: [To be completed by the Secretariat.]

25. In accordance with the decision of the Fourth Review Conference to enhance the implementation of the Compliance Mechanism for the Convention and its Protocols, the Meeting had before it national annual reports on compliance from the following High Contracting Parties: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America.

26. During the course of the Meeting, the following documents were considered: CCW/MSP/2015/1 to CCW/MSP/2015/xxx, as listed in annex III. The official documents of the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties are available in all official languages through the Official Documents System of the United Nations at <http://www.documents.un.org/>, and the official CCW website as part of the website of the United Nations Office at Geneva at <http://www.unog.ch/ccw/>.

27. The Conference welcomed the audio recordings of official meetings and conferences, which have been established by the United Nations Office at Geneva and are available on that organization's website.

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

28. The Meeting welcomed the report on promoting universality of the Convention and its Protocols and reaffirmed their commitment to the Accelerated Plan of Action on Universalization. The Meeting emphasized the importance of achieving universal adherence to, and compliance with, the Convention, the amendment to Article 1, and its Protocols.

29. The Meeting recommended that the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President-designate of the Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention

exercise their authority to achieve the goal of universality of the Convention and its Protocols.

30. The Meeting expressed its appreciation for the report of the CCW Sponsorship Programme and the work of its Steering Committee. The Meeting recognized the value and importance of the Sponsorship Programme for promoting universalization and strengthening the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, enhancing the cooperation and exchange of information among the High Contracting Parties and States not yet party, and ensuring broader geographical representation at meetings of the Convention. The Meeting called upon all States in a position to do so to contribute to the Sponsorship Programme.

31. The Meeting emphasized once again the importance of compliance with the provisions of the Convention and its Protocols by all High Contracting Parties, their commitment to fully implement the provisions enshrined therein, and their determination to consult and cooperate with each other in order to facilitate the full implementation of the

obligations contained in the Convention and its Protocols to which they are party, thereby promoting compliance.

32. The Meeting reaffirmed its commitment to the Compliance Mechanism of the Convention and its Protocols. Furthermore, the Meeting reiterated the call for all High Contracting Parties to submit national compliance reports in accordance with the decision taken at the Fourth Review Conference to enhance the implementation of the Compliance Mechanism.

33. The Meeting expressed its appreciation for the report of the Implementation Support Unit and the work carried out by the Unit. The Meeting requested the Implementation Support Unit to continue to report annually on its activities, including on its estimated costs and actual costs.

34. [...]

35. [...]

36. [...]

37. [...]

38. [...]

39. At the same plenary meeting, the Meeting adopted its final report, as contained in document CCW/MSP/2015/CRP.1, as orally amended, which is being issued as document CCW/MSP/2015/xxx.

Annex I

Provisional Agenda

Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention

[To be completed]

Annex II

High Contracting Parties to the Convention and its annexed Protocols (including those which have consented to be bound by the following Protocols)

[To be completed]

Annex III

List of documents

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
CCW/MSP/2015/1	Provisional agenda
CCW/MSP/2015/2 and Add.1	Provisional programme of work and provisional annotated programme of work
CCW/MSP/2015/3	Report of the 2015 Informal Meeting of Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS)
CCW/MSP/2015/4	Promoting universality of the Convention and its Protocols
CCW/MSP/2015/5 and Add.1	Report of the CCW Sponsorship Programme
CCW/MSP/2015/6	Report of the Implementation Support Unit
CCW/MSP/2015/7	Estimated Costs of the 2016 Meeting of Experts on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems 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
CCW/MSP/2015/8 and Add.1	Estimated Costs of the Fifth 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 Estimated Costs of the Preparatory Committee for the 2016 Fifth 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
CCW/MSP/2015/WP.1 and Rev.1	Annotated programme of work for the informal meeting of experts on lethal autonomous weapons systems. Geneva, 13–17 April 2015
CCW/MSP/2015/WP.2	Lethal autonomous weapons systems. Food-for-thought for the informal meeting of experts on lethal autonomous weapons systems. Geneva, 13 – 17 April 2015

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
CCW/MSP/2015/INF.1 and Rev.1	Information for States parties, observer States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations
CCW/MSP/2015/CRP.1	Draft report
CCW/MSP/2015/MISC.1	Provisional list of participants
[...]	
