



MINUTES OF THE CCM COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Held on Wednesday 26th June 2019
at Shiva Restaurant, Rue Tronchin 14, 1202 Geneva, from 12:30 - 14:30 hours

1. Present:

Sri Lanka - 9MSP President

H.E. Mr. Aliyar Lebbe Abdul Azeez
Ms. Rajmi Manatunga

Switzerland - 2RC President-Designate

Mr. Laurent Masméjean

Austria

H.E. Ms. Elisabeth Tichy-Fisslberger
Ms. Susanne Hammer

Chile

Ms. Maria Ocaranza

Germany

Mr. Toralf Pilz

Iraq

Mr. Mohammed Ridha Al-Haidari

Ireland

Dr. Patricia Cullen
Ms. Nicola Brassil

Lao PDR

Mr. Phetsamone Keovongvichith

Netherlands

Mr. Reint Vogelaar

New Zealand

Ms. Charlotte Skerten

Peru

Mr. César Aréstegui

Sweden

Ms. Anna Envall

CMC

Ms. Kasia Derlicka-Rosenbauer

ICRC

Ms. Wen Zhou

UNODA

Ms. Silvia Mercogliano
Ms. Erika Kawahara

Secretariat - ISU-CCM

Ms. Sheila N. Mweemba
Mr. Matthieu Laruelle
Ms. Elaine Weiss

Apologies received:

Mozambique
Panama
Zambia

Apologies not received:

Spain

2. Opening Remarks by the Presidency

9MSP President, Ambassador Aliyar Lebbe Abdul Azeez, opened the fifth Coordination Committee Meeting of 2019 and the eighth under the Sri Lankan Presidency, with a warm welcome to all the members present at the mid-term review working lunch. He reiterated that the aim of the Meeting was to conduct a comprehensive stock-take of the Convention's implementation since the 8MSP and consider the necessary efforts to apply up to the 9MSP. This would also ensure that the 9MSP set a sound foundation for the 2nd Review Conference in 2020.

He also took the opportunity to thank and honour Dr. Patricia Cullen, Deputy Permanent Representative at the Permanent Mission of Ireland, for her contribution to the work of the CCM and other sectors of humanitarian affairs. Ambassador Azeez thanked Dr. Cullen for having been a good friend of the Convention and its processes and for her advice and persuasive manner in approaching difficult situations which was appreciated. In response Dr. Cullen who had retired from the Irish Foreign Service the previous day, thanked the President for his generous comments and stated that Conventions were her favorite as in each successive year progress was recorded. She applauded the team spirit and thanked the President for his gentle but firm leadership. She also thanked the Director of the Implementation Support Unit and her team for the excellent cooperation and support to the Coordination Committee members in particular and the CCM States Parties in general.

3. Approval of Minutes of the previous Coordination Committee Meetings

The Committee approved as circulated the Minutes of the Coordination Committee Meeting held on Thursday 16th May 2019 as well as the Minutes of the Extraordinary Coordination Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 12th June 2019.

4. Update from President of the 9th Meeting of States Parties (9MSP)

The Ambassador highlighted that the focus of his presidency had been on 2 main themes: CCM universalization and finances.

4.1 CCM finances

With regards to the latter, he reminded the Meeting that he had made calls to all 12 States that owed UNODA more than USD 2'000 and followed up this action with letters. He reported that most States had reacted positively to his outreach. He informed that China had requested a formal invoice with the overall estimated cost of the MSP and its assessed percentage of contribution which it had not received. The UNODA had since forwarded the invoice to China as requested.

4.2 CCM Universalization: Asia-Pacific regional workshop

Ambassador Abdul Azeez notified that the workshop organized by New Zealand, the Coordinator on National Implementation Measures, had brought together several States not Party from South and

East Asia and the Pacific. Of these, eight were States not Party and five CCM States parties. The President representing Sri Lanka had also participated at the workshop. He reminded the Meeting that the workshop was originally to be held in Sri Lanka in May but had had to be postponed and moved to the Philippines. Nevertheless, Sri Lanka had remained interested in playing an active role in the event and viewed it as a golden opportunity to promote CCM universalization to Asia-Pacific States. He reported that the ISU had done an excellent job in explaining the Convention as States not Party that participated were given pertinent information on the implications of joining the CCM and on the implementation of the Convention. The President expressed his gratitude to all who had contributed to the success of the workshop, including New Zealand, Switzerland, the Philippines, Lao PDR, the CMC and ICRC.

5. Presentation by Sub-Committee on CCM Finances of final draft document on Possible Measures to Address Financial Predictability and Sustainability for the CCM

Ambassador Abdul Azeez informed that at the emergency Coordination Committee meeting of 12 June 2019 it was noted that the collection rate for the CCM was at 63% and therefore cost-cutting measures had to be discussed and considered. A *silence procedure* was thereafter carried out to seek the agreement of States Parties to the proposed measures, but France broke the silence by expressing the need for CCM States Parties to uphold the UN policy of multilingualism.

In elaborating, the UNODA representative reported that since 12 June 2019, UNODA had received an additional contribution of about USD20'000 which had decreased the deficit to approximately USD60'000. UNODA recalled that following the 12 June meeting, it had put in place a *silence procedure* to seek the agreement of the States Parties to the decision of the Coordination Committee to issue four documents in English only. UNODA also recalled that the silence procedure was broken. Consequently, UNODA did not submit these four documents and awaited further instructions. Following the agreement of the President, with whom UNODA met on Monday 24 June 2019, and following the agreement of the Coordination Committee, UNODA would process these and all other pre-session and post-session documents for translation in all six official languages only upon upfront availability of funds for translation. Furthermore, UNODA had adjusted the forecast dates of these four documents to 8 July 2019.

The Ambassador further reported that he had met with UNODA to discuss the financial situation of the Convention and outlined the possible options of going ahead with the hosting of the 9MSP. One was to reduce the meeting from 3 to 2 days and have MSP documents translated as funds became available. This would address the concerns of upholding the principles of multilingualism. Another option would be to hold a 3-day meeting with the 2nd day held with no interpretation. He conveyed his resolve to hold the MSP notwithstanding the possibility of having to implement maximum cost-cutting measures. He also wished to uphold the demand of France in preserving the principle of multilingualism as much as the available funds would allow.

Contributing to the discussion Ireland noted that diplomacy is a slow process and as a new member of the International Organization of La Francophonie, it shared the sentiments of France in promoting the use of the French language. Nonetheless, Ireland also did not wish to see the hosting of the 9MSP compromised in any way.

In contributing to the discussion, Netherlands, proposed that the President could reach out to France and request that it considered the option of one day without simultaneous interpretation than to not have official documents of the Meeting. The UNODA representative indicated to have been called by the French delegate with reference to the four documents and to have explained the financial situation.

After extensive discussion, Ambassador Abdul Azeez concluded that as a way forward, he would seek a meeting with the French delegation with UNODA and the ISU present at this meeting. Secondly, he instructed that the German paper on cost-saving measures for the 9MSP to be circulated to the Coordination Committee immediately after the Meeting for its consideration. Finally, he hoped to further discuss the practicalities of organizing the MSP without setting any undesirable precedent.

The President outlined the 2 possible options available to the CCM States Parties and which the Coordination Committee needed to consider and take a decision on: (1) a 3-day MSP with 2 formal days (with interpretation) and 1 informal day (without interpretation) or (2) reducing the MSP to only 2 formal days with full interpretation services. The President noted that the latter option had also been UNODA's advice and would meet the spirit of multilingualism.

The UNODA representative stressed that a decision on cost cutting measures needed to be taken by 28 June 2019. She also noted that the translation of the Final Report, a post-Meeting document, would also be subject to the upfront availability of funds for translation.

The Chair of the Finance Sub-Committee, Switzerland, informed that the deficit of USD60'000 could be reduced to about USD20'000 if 2 States were to make their contributions, 1 of which was a State Party and the other an observer State. Therefore, it would be advisable to urgently reach out to these 2 States to remind them of their overdue payments.

Reporting on the task of preparing a paper on CCM Finances, Switzerland reminded the Meeting that at the 8MSP, States Parties had resolved to consider the financial status of the Convention as well as to deliberate on possible measures to address financial predictability and sustainability. Regarding the former, it had been identified that arrears in payment were accumulating each year because of non-payment. The accumulated deficit was contributing to the other key issue of late payments. Hence multiple measures would be required to address both challenges. A decision would have to be made regarding how and whether to invoice Observer States, along with steps to ensure liquidity. Switzerland notified that it would send the final document on CCM Finances to the ISU for circulation to the Coordination Committee as a *silence procedure*. It further elucidated that the document would thereafter be processed as an official document of the MSP and made available to all States Parties for consideration at the 9MSP. Switzerland added that an informal session would probably be necessary to facilitate a discussion so that an agreement could be reached by the final day of the MSP.

Ambassador Abdul Azeez wholeheartedly thanked Switzerland and the Sub-Committee on CCM Finances for all the hard work that had led to the drafting of the complex document. He conveyed his agreement toward the circulation of the document in the context of a *silence procedure*.

6. Comprehensive updates by thematic Coordinators on their work since the 8MSP and consideration of measures to undertake up to the 9MSP

The President invited the thematic Coordinators to report on their work during the period since the 8MSP and their plans leading up to the 9MSP.

6.1 Stockpile Destruction and Retention (Austria & Mozambique)

Austria, reporting on behalf of the Coordinators on Stockpile Destruction and Retention, informed that consultations with Bulgaria on its extension request had been productive and both parties had come to an agreement. Austria expressed the Coordinators' appreciation to the President for his engagement in the process. The Coordinators had also held a bilateral meeting with Peru where Peru had been informed of the process of submitting an extension request.

6.2 Clearance and Risk Reduction Education (Lao PDR & Sweden)

Sweden, reporting on behalf of the Clearance and Risk Reduction Education Coordinators, reminded the Meeting that the Coordinators had produced the draft *Methodology for requests of deadline extensions under Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions*, in collaboration with the Coordinators on Stockpile Destruction and Retention and the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance. In producing this document, the drafting sub-committee had consulted with the CCM and the APMBC ISUs.

Sweden also reported that the Coordinators had held bilateral meetings with Germany and Lao People's Democratic Republic, which had submitted Article 4 extension requests to be considered at the 9MSP. Sweden added that the meetings had positive outcomes and that these extension requests had set the bar high for future extension requests.

6.3 Victim Assistance (Ireland & Spain)

Ireland, on behalf of the Coordinators on Victim Assistance, reported that concerning the establishment of a national focal point, the Coordinators had concluded that the umbrella of the CRPD would be key in helping States to avoid being overburdened by running costs.

Ireland informed the Meeting that it was reconfirmed, as in previous years, that securing long-term financial and other resources for victim assistance, especially with regards to rehabilitation, psychological, social and economic support, remained very difficult for affected States. It was with concern that the Coordinators had been informed that the level of international assistance dedicated to victim assistance, in the framework of the CCM and APMBC, represented a very small percentage of total mine action funding, falling just below 4%.

Ireland highlighted that the Coordinators continued to promote the *Guidelines on Gender and Diversity-Responsive Victim Assistance in Mine Action*, produced in the previous year by the Gender and Mine Action Programme (GMAP) in collaboration with Humanity and Inclusion (HI), with the financial support of Italy. The Guidelines were uploaded in April by the ISU onto the CCM website, thus gaining a global outreach

The Coordinators were pleased to note that the 9MSP would be immediately followed in September by *Fostering Partnerships*, a global conference on assistance to victims of anti-personnel mines and other explosive remnants of war and disability-rights, which would be held in Amman, Jordan, under the leadership of HRH Prince Mired Raad Zeid Al-Hussein. Ireland reported that the Coordinators forecasted that the conference in Amman would enable an enhanced degree of cross-Convention dialogue, brain-storming and collaboration.

The representative of Ireland, Dr. Patricia Cullen, informed that her successor, Mr. Jamie Walsh, would be arriving in late July to continue with Ireland's work as Coordinator on Victim Assistance.

6.4 International Cooperation and Assistance (Netherlands & Peru)

Peru, on behalf of the International Cooperation and Assistance Coordinators, reported that the Coordinators had been members of the Analysis Groups for Articles 3 and 4 extension requests, together with the respective Coordinators for these Articles.

Peru informed that after having reviewed the 2018 annual transparency reports, the Coordinators reached out to States Parties that had indicated a need for assistance to meet their Convention deadlines. To this end, the Coordinators already held bilateral meetings with Lao PDR and Montenegro and had scheduled upcoming meetings with other States Parties in the following weeks. The aim of these meetings was to seek clarification on the States' exact needs to determine the best way Coordinators could provide support for them to accomplish their goals. The Coordinators had been taking the opportunity to encourage States to form country coalition partnerships. Peru notified that the ISU would be informed on developments in this area and that the Coordinators might request ISU support in organizing a country coalitions side event in the margins of the 9MSP.

6.5 Reporting (Iraq)

Iraq reported that since it took office as Coordinator on Reporting, it had sent 2 reminder letters to States Parties with overdue initial transparency reports to remind them to submit the reports as soon as possible. Additionally, 2 rounds of bilateral outreach meetings were held with most of those States in the sidelines of the 39th and 40th sessions of the Human Rights Council. In collaboration with the ISU, it had sent reminder letters to all States Parties in February 2019 to encourage submission of 2018 annual transparency ahead of the 30 April 2019 deadline. On 17 May, individual letters were sent to States Parties that had not submitted their 2018 annual reports. On the same day, letters were also sent to new States Parties, Namibia, the Gambia and the Philippines to remind them of the deadline for the submission of their initial reports, which were due on 31 July 2019, 28 November 2019 and 28 December 2019 respectively.

Iraq informed that as of the previous day, 56 of 89 States Parties had submitted their 2018 annual transparency report and 2 States Parties had submitted their initial transparency reports in the period since the 8MSP.

6.6 National Implementation Measures (New Zealand)

New Zealand reported that the Asia-Pacific regional workshop had taken place in Manila the previous week and conveyed its gratitude to the ISU for all its help in organizing the event. New Zealand extended its thanks to Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Lao PDR, members of the Coordination Committee that had participated in the workshop. The event brought together 8 States not Party and 5 States Parties. The ICRC and CMC were also in attendance as expert resources.

The President thanked all Coordination Committee members for their presentations and informed that the Coordinators on Universalization would be presenting their report during the next Coordination Committee Meeting.

7. Consideration of the draft 9MSP Progress Report

The President enquired if the Coordination Committee had any comments with regards to the draft *9MSP Progress Report*. The ISU Director pointed out that some of the texts in the draft document were in red which denoted pending information that the ISU were awaiting from reports that were expected to be received later that week. Coordinators were requested to check their respective thematic sections to make sure that the information reflected was accurate. Furthermore, she stated that the ISU would inform the Coordinators should their sections be updated thereafter up to 30 June 2019. The Director mentioned that the Report would perhaps have to be trimmed to abide by the 10'000-word limit given by UN Conference Services.

8. Update from the Implementation Support Unit

8.1 9MSP documentation

The ISU Director informed that all 11 MSP documents with the exception of 2 documents had been submitted to UNODA for further processing as official 9MSP documentation. The 2 remaining documents were the *Possible Measures to Address Financial Predictability and Sustainability of CCM*, which Switzerland would be sending to the ISU to be submitted to UNODA on 28 June 2019, and the *9MSP Progress Report* to be submitted on 1 July 2019.

8.2 Update on the financing of the ISU

The Director reported that since the last Meeting, 6 additional States Parties had made their 2019 contributions, bringing the total number of contributing States to 34 and the amount contributed to over CHF 354'000 against a budget of CHF 475'362. This was equivalent to almost 75% of the budget. Furthermore, 2 States had indicated that they had begun processing their payments amounting to approximately CHF 90'000 which would bring the contributions close to the annual budget.

8.3 9MSP Sponsorship Programme

The Director notified that the Sponsorship Programme letters were ready for distribution but were being held until a final decision was made regarding the hosting of the 9MSP. Once the hosting and

duration of the Meeting was confirmed the letters would be sent out to the identified beneficiary States.

8.4 Members of 2019-2020 Coordination Committee

The Director conveyed that letters had been sent to invite proposals for members of 2019-2020 Coordination Committee and that some States had responded positively. Montenegro had indicated its willingness to replace Lao PDR as Coordinator on Clearance and Risk Reduction Education, while Mexico had expressed interest in taking over Ireland’s position as Coordinator on Victim Assistance. Iraq and New Zealand had communicated their desire to renew their terms as Coordinator on Reporting and Coordinator on National Implementation Measures, respectively. Four positions remained open for nominations to replace Panama as Coordinator on Universalization, Mozambique as Coordinator on Stockpile Destruction and Retention, Germany as Coordinator on General Status and Operation of the Convention and Peru as Coordinator on International Cooperation and Assistance.

9. Any other business

9.1 Process for the selection of the Presidency of the CCM

Ambassador Abdul Azeez reminded that the 8MSP had considered the document submitted by Germany on the *Establishment of a Process for the Selection of the Presidency of the CCM* and that this matter would be further considered at the 9MSP. He invited the Coordination Committee to take into account the practices of other Conventions and reflect on whether the CCM Presidency should be selected according to a fixed regional rotational scheme or a more flexible process through the discretion of the Coordination Committee.

10. Date of the Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Coordination Committee Meeting would be held in early August 2019 and that the actual date would be communicated by the ISU closer to the day.

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