



MINUTES OF THE CCM COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Thursday 29th August 2019

in Conference Room 6A, Tower 3, Maison de la Paix, from 09:00 - 09:45 hours

1. Present:

Sri Lanka - 9MSP President

H.E. Mr. Aliyar Lebbe Abdul Azeez

Ms. Rajmi Manatunga

Austria

Ms. Susanne Hammer

Chile

Mr. Eduardo Carlé

Germany

Mr. Toralf Pilz

Iraq

Mr. Mohammed Ridha Al-Haidari

Ireland

Ms. Leah Murphy

Lao PDR

Mr. Phetsamone Keovongvichith

Mozambique

Mr. Jaime Chissano

Netherlands

Mr. Reint Vogelaar

New Zealand

Ms. Charlotte Skerten

Peru

Mr. César Aréstegui

Spain

Mr. Juan Manglano

CMC

Ms. Kasia Derlicka-Rosenbauer

ICRC

Ms. Wen Zhou

UNODA

Ms. Silvia Mercogliano

Ms. Erika Kawahara

Apologies received:

Sweden

Switzerland

Zambia

Implementation Support Unit - Secretariat

Ms. Sheila N. Mweemba

Mr. Matthieu Laruelle

Ms. Elaine Weiss

Ms. Favour Abah

2. Opening remarks by the President

The 9MSP President, Ambassador Aliyar Lebbe Abdul Azeez, opened the seventh Coordination Committee Meeting of 2019 which was also the tenth and last one under the Sri Lankan Presidency with a warm welcome to all present. Thereafter, the President proceeded with the Agenda as presented.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous Coordination Committee Meeting

The Committee adopted the Minutes of the Coordination Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 8th August 2019, as a correct record of what had transpired at that Meeting.

4. Update on Preparations for the 9MSP

Ambassador Abdul Azeez reminded the Meeting that the formal sessions of the 9MSP which provide interpretation in all six official languages of the UN had been reduced to two days while the second day of the 9MSP would be an informal day of discussions. He added that a summary of records on the informal exchanges would be presented on the third day. The President also informed that Sri Lanka would not be hosting a reception during the 9MSP.

He then invited the Director of the ISU to provide the Meeting with an update on the final preparations for the 9MSP.

The Director informed that during the 9MSP, the Coordination Committee morning briefing would be taking place at 9:30am every day in Room E.3056/3058 at the Palais des Nations on the 3rd floor. This room was located directly behind the main meeting room. She pointed out that the same room had also been allocated for the closed meeting on the establishment of a country coalition for Lao PDR. The Director highlighted that given the limited time allocated to the formal sessions, in order to save time, the Coordinators would be alerted a few minutes before their thematic session was due to begin so that they could move close to the podium and make the changeover between sessions quickly and seamlessly. Furthermore, the Director reminded that the Coordinators would not like in the past be afforded the opportunity for closing remarks at the end of their sessions. The Director also reminded that all delegations would only be given 4 minutes each for oral statements while encouraged to submit longer statements to be uploaded on the CCM website in real time.

The Director also notified that there would be only be 3 side events taking place in the margins of the 9MSP; one on each day of the MSP. In this regard, the side events schedule had been uploaded onto the 9MSP webpage. The Director expressed her gratitude to Sri Lanka for providing the 9MSP giveaways and announced that the welcome bags had been packed early that week in readiness for the MSP.

Regarding the Sponsorship Programme, the Director reported that 32 countries had been invited to formally request of sponsorship for a government delegate to participate in the 9MSP. Of these, as at that date, preparations for the participation of 21 delegates from 20 States were being processed. To this end, travel arrangements had been finalized for 16 delegates while 4 were still awaiting their

entry visas and 1 a transit visa. It was noteworthy that most of the sponsored delegates would be representing States not Party – many that would be participating for the first time.

The President thanked the ISU Director for her comprehensive update and gave the floor to the UNODA representative to provide additional information.

UNODA, as had the ISU, noted the importance of limiting statements in light of time concerns during the 9MSP. UNODA further reported that the registration of delegations for the 9MSP at that time was: 50 States Parties, 3 Signatory and 13 Observer States as well as several international organizations and institutions.

The UNODA representative reminded participants that a colleague from UNOG Financial Management Resources Services would be participating in the session on financial issues scheduled for the formal session on Wednesday.

The UNODA representative also informed about the availability of extra rooms for additional consultations. She pointed out that these included the two small rooms right behind meeting Room XX while others with a seating capacity of 25 persons were available on the 1st and 2nd floor and accessible by elevator from the 3rd floor. In addition, the UNODA representative elucidated that should the formal sessions of the 9MSP continue past 18:00 hours, there would be no interpretation thereafter, but the Meeting would still be recorded at a rate of USD75 per hour until 21:00 hours and USD100 per hour after 21:00 hours for each sound operator. She advised that Room XX required 2 sound operators whereas in Room XIX only one was needed. She advised that the Meeting could be adjourned to move to Room XIX after 18:00 hours to reduce recording costs if so desired.

In response, the President stressed that moving to another meeting room would be too disruptive and authorized for the 9MSP to continue in Room XX if it was to go beyond 18:00 hours. The President then opened the floor for additional comments and/or clarifications on the updates.

In the ensuing discussion, Germany enquired if the Financial Services officer would be present during both the second and third day of the MSP. The UNODA representative said she would consult with the relevant department to ascertain if that could be arranged though most likely there would not be availability for both days. The ISU Director proposed that if that were to be the case, it would be more prudent to have the officer present on Day 2 when the actual exchanges on the topic would take place.

The Meeting noted that as an in-depth exchange on the financial status of the Convention would be taking place on the informal day of the 9MSP, it would be preferable to have the financial services official present during the informal consultations.

The Netherlands informed that the new representative of Sweden to the CCM would be presenting Germany's extension request and the analysis of the request on Day 1 of the MSP and enquired if it was possible for the Netherlands to also be on the podium to answer any questions directed to the Analysis Group. The ISU Director explained that the segment on extension requests would be considerably brief on Day 1 and any questions would be directed only to the requesting States. She explained that an in-depth discussion on the extension requests would take place on Day 2. In

contributing to the discussion, Germany notified that it had informed its capital of the more concise format on Day 1 and the opportunity for a more extensive response on Day 2. The German representative stated that his colleagues in capital had prepared a presentation on Germany's extension request which was a valuable exercise in reflecting on lessons learned in fulfilling its Article 4 obligations.

Mozambique enquired as to when the decisions on the extension requests would be made and whether the draft decisions could change. In response, the ISU Director clarified that the decisions on the extension requests would be made on Day 3 of the MSP based on the discussions on Days 1 and 2. She advised that the draft recommendations to the requesting States could be amended if the States came forward with pivotal information that would require that the draft decision be changed. She gave as an example the case of Bulgaria providing additional details on the selection of a contractor and submitting an updated work plan based on this new development. The Director elaborated that Lao PDR and Germany would most likely be granted the extension they had requested, while Bulgaria was aware that the Analysis Group would only grant it an extension of 12 months to afford it the opportunity to provide the additional vital information needed for it to submit a detailed workplan and budget.

In its contribution to the discussion, Peru reported that Lao PDR, a state requesting an extension of its Article 4 deadline, had been approached by the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance to encourage them establish a country coalition. He informed that as Lao PDR had expressed its interest in doing the Coordinators had been in discussion with it on that subject for 2 months and under Lao PDR's initiative, a closed lunchtime meeting had been organized to be held on Tuesday 3 September 2019 in the margins of the 9MSP. Invitees to the meeting would include donors, operators and States that had adopted the *individualized approach* to fulfil their APMBBC obligations to share their experience. Peru informed that Sri Lanka had been one of the states invited to share on lessons learnt to which Ambassador Abdul Azeez responded that he would be honoured to participate in the meeting. Peru thanked the Ambassador for his engagement and as a final remark, stated that the meeting would only be for an hour. The President expressed his gratitude to the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance and to Lao PDR for the commendable initiative and reiterated Sri Lanka's commitment to supporting the initiative.

5. Any Other Business

The CMC representative informed that the virtual launch of the latest edition of the Cluster Munition Monitor would take place that morning at 10am and that the latest information, progress and country chapters would be made accessible online. She warmly invited the Coordination Committee to the briefing on the 2019 Cluster Munition Monitor that would be taking place during lunchtime on Monday 2 September 2019 in the sidelines of the 9MSP. She reminded that a light lunch and a hard copy of the Monitor would be provided to attendees of the briefing. The CMC representative also highlighted that certain media had alleged that India was using cluster munitions in Kashmir and Pakistan, and to date, her colleagues from the Cluster Munition Monitor and Human Rights Watch had not been able to confirm these allegations. She added that more information on this topic would be presented during the side event on Monday.

6. Final Remarks by 9MSP Presidency

The President of the 9 MSP appreciated that all arrangements for the Meeting, including logistics, list of documents, programme of work and other related matters had been finalised. Ambassador Abdul Azeez stated that even though Sri Lanka’s presidential term would end on 4 September 2019, it would continue being involved in the work of the Coordination Committee in its new role as Immediate-Past President. The ISU Director reminded the Meeting that Sri Lanka would be handing over the Presidency to Switzerland at the end of the 9MSP and announced that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had submitted its interest to be considered for the office of the Presidency to preside over the 10MSP.

Ambassador Abdul Azeez closed the Coordination Committee Meeting by conveying his deepest appreciation to the ISU and UNODA for their hard work and mentioned that preparations for the 9MSP would have been less meticulous without their support. He particularly thanked the ISU team for its constant support and diligence in the performance of its work. He conveyed his special appreciation for the excellent manner that Ms. Sheila Mweemba guided the President and the Coordination Committee in their tasks.

Ambassador Azeez extended his deep gratitude to all the representatives of the Coordination Committee for their tireless work and support that had been invaluable to staying the course in the realizing the objectives of the Convention.

7. Date of the Next Meeting

It was agreed that the first Coordination Committee briefing of the 9MSP would be held at 09:30hours on Monday, 2nd September 2019, in Room E.3056/3058 located on the 3rd Floor, Building E of the Palais des Nations.

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