
**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**

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Item 8 of the agenda

**Adoption of Plan of Action to promote the universality
of the Convention, including the implementation
of the CCW Sponsorship Programme**

**Promoting the universality of the Convention and its annexed
Protocols**

Submitted by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The Third Review Conference adopted the “Plan of Action to Promote Universality of 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”, as contained in the Final Document of the Conference (CCW/CONF.III/11, Part II, annex III).
2. The Conference agreed, in particular, that given the progress achieved so far, efforts to promote the universality of the Convention and its annexed Protocols would remain a priority objective of cooperation among States Parties in the period from 2006 to 2011. The Plan of Action, therefore, sets forth seven actions to be undertaken by the States Parties as appropriate and according to international law.
3. The Plan of Action also stipulates that “[t]he Secretariat shall report on the implementation of this Plan of Action, and keep the States Parties regularly informed, so that they may review progress and monitor its implementation effectively[...]” This report is presented pursuant to this Decision.

II. Efforts to Promote Universality

4. The Third Review Conference adopted the “Plan of Action to Promote Universality of 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”, as contained in the Final Document of the Conference (CCW/CONF.III/11, Part II, annex II4. Pursuant to the Plan of Action adopted by the Third Review Conference, a variety of initiatives have been undertaken to promote universal adherence to the Convention and its annexed Protocols. In particular, since the 2009 Meeting of the High

Contracting Parties the following action has been taken in accordance with the mandate and pursuant to the established practice under the Convention:

(a) The Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed a letter to the Heads of States or Governments of the States that are not yet party to the Convention, including the remaining 5 Signatory States, inviting them to consider becoming party to the CCW.

(b) The Chairperson of the 2009 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, Ambassador Babacar Carlos Mbaye of Senegal; the President of the Eleventh Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, Ambassador Jānis Mažeiks of Latvia; and the President of the Third Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, Ambassador Hamid Ali Rao of India co-signed a letter addressed to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the United Nations that are not yet party to the Convention, and the remaining 5 Signatory States, encouraging them to consider becoming party.

(c) The President of the Third Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, Ambassador Hamid Ali Rao of India also sent a letter addressed to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States parties to the Convention but not yet party to Protocol V encouraging them to consider becoming party.

(d) The President of the Eleventh Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, Ambassador Jānis Mažeiks of Latvia sent a letter addressed to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the remaining twelve States parties to the original Protocol II encouraging them to consider becoming party to Amended Protocol II.

III. New Ratifications

5. At the 2010 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention there are 113 States Parties to the Convention, as follows:

- (a) 111 States Parties to Protocol I on Non-Detectable Fragments;
- (b) 93 to Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices;
- (c) 95 to Amended Protocol II;
- (d) 107 to Protocol III on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons;
- (e) 99 to Protocol IV on Blinding Laser Weapons;
- (f) 69 to Protocol V on Explosive Remnant of War; and
- (g) 74 States parties have ratified the amendment to Article 1 of the Convention.

6. Adherence to the Convention and its Protocols has steadily increased since the 2009 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention. The status of new ratifications to the Convention and its Protocols as of 25 November 2010 is as follows:

- (a) The CCW framework convention (113 States parties)
 - (i) Antigua and Barbuda, 23 August 2010
 - (ii) Dominican Republic, 21 June 2010
 - (iii) Qatar, 16 November 2009

States signatories: 5 (Afghanistan, Egypt, Nigeria, Sudan, Viet Nam)

- (b) Amendment to Article 1 of the Convention (74 States parties)

- (i) Dominican Republic, 21 June 2010
- (ii) New Zealand, 24 March 2010
- (c) Protocol I on Non-Detectable Fragments (111 States parties)
- (i) Antigua and Barbuda, 23 August 2010
- (ii) Dominican Republic, 21 June 2010
- (iii) Qatar, 16 November 2009
- (d) Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices (93 States parties)
- (i) Dominican Republic, 21 June 2010.
- (e) Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (95 States parties)
- (i) Dominican Republic, 21 June 2010
- (ii) Gabon, 22 September 2010
- (f) Protocol III on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (107 States parties)
- (i) Antigua and Barbuda, 23 August 2010
- (ii) Dominican Republic, 21 June 2010
- (iii) Qatar, 16 November 2009
- (g) Protocol IV on Blinding Laser Weapons (99 States parties)
- (i) Antigua and Barbuda, 23 August 2010
- (ii) Dominican Republic, 21 June 2010
- (iii) Gabon, 22 September 2010
- (iv) Qatar, 16 November 2009
- (h) Protocol V on Explosive Remnant of War (69 States parties)
- (i) Belgium, 25 January 2010
- (ii) China, 10 June 2010
- (iii) Cyprus, 11 March 2010
- (iv) Gabon, 22 September 2010
- (v) Honduras, 16 August 2010
- (vi) Italy, 11 February 2010
- (vii) Qatar, 16 November 2009
- (viii) Saudi Arabia, 8 January 2010

7. The above statistics illustrates a total of 26 successful ratifications since the 2009 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention.

8. The Convention and the respective Protocols have entered into force for 110 of these States. As regards the new accessions, the details are as follows:

Antigua and Barbuda: The Convention, Protocol I, Protocol III and Protocol IV will simultaneously enter into force for Antigua and Barbuda on 23 February 2011.

Belgium: Protocol V has entered into force for Belgium on 25 July 2010.

China: Protocol V will enter into force for China on 10 December 2010.

Cyprus: Protocol V has entered into force for Cyprus on 11 September 2010.

Gabon: Amended Protocol II, Protocol IV, Protocol V will enter into force for Gabon on 22 March 2011

Dominican Republic: The Convention, amendment to Article 1, Protocol I, Protocol II, Amended Protocol II, Protocol III and Protocol IV will simultaneously enter into force for the Dominican Republic on 21 December 2010.

Honduras: Protocol V will enter into force for Honduras on 16 February 2011.

Italy: Protocol V has entered into force for Italy on 11 August 2010.

New Zealand: Amended Article I has entered into force for New Zealand on 24 September 2010

Qatar: The Convention, Protocol I, Amended Protocol II, Protocol III, Protocol IV and Protocol V have simultaneously entered into force for Qatar on 16 May 2010.

Saudi Arabia: Protocol V has entered into force for Saudi Arabia on 8 July 2010.

Annex

CCW Universality 2006-2010

	<i>2006¹</i>	<i>2007²</i>	<i>2008³</i>	<i>2009⁴</i>	<i>2010⁵</i>
The Convention	100	103	108	110	113
Amended Article 1	48	56	63	72	74
Protocol I	98	101	106	108	111
Protocol II	87	89	92	92	93
Amended Protocol II	86	88	92	93	95
Protocol III	93	96	101	104	107
Protocol IV	83	87	92	95	99
Protocol V	27	35	48	61	69

New adherents in 2007

CCW framework convention: (3) Cameroon, Gabon, Montenegro

Amended Article 1: (8) Cuba, Chile, El Salvador, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Niger, Russian Federation, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Protocol I: (3) Cameroon, Gabon, Montenegro

Protocol II: (2) Cameroon, Montenegro

Amended Protocol II: (2) Cameroon, Niger

Protocol III: (3) Cameroon, Gabon, Montenegro

Protocol IV: (4) Cameroon, Montenegro, Niger

Protocol V: (8) Australia, Austria, Spain, Estonia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Hungary, Slovenia, Uruguay

New adherents in 2008

CCW framework convention: (5) Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Jamaica, Madagascar, Saudi Arabia

Amended Article 1: (7) Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Jamaica, Portugal, Slovenia

¹ Third Review Conference (7–17 November 2006), as at 15 November 2006

² Meeting of the High Contracting Parties (7–13 November 2007), as at 13 November 2007

³ Meeting of the High Contracting Parties (13–14 November 2008), as at 11 November 2008

⁴ Meeting of the High Contracting Parties (12–13 November 2009), as at 6 November 2009

⁵ Meeting of the High Contracting Parties (25–26 November 2010), as at 25 November 2010

Protocol I: (5) Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Jamaica, Madagascar, Saudi Arabia

Protocol II: (3) Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Madagascar

Amended Protocol II: (4) Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Jamaica, Madagascar

Protocol III: (5) Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Jamaica, Madagascar, Saudi Arabia

Protocol IV: (5) Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Jamaica, Madagascar, Saudi Arabia

Protocol V: (13) Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Jamaica, Madagascar, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Tunisia

New adherents in 2009

CCW framework convention: (2) Kazakhstan, United Arab Emirates

Amended Article 1: (9) Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Georgia, Guatemala, Paraguay, Tunisia, USA, Uruguay

Protocol I: (2) Kazakhstan, United Arab Emirates

Protocol II: None

Amended Protocol II: (1) Georgia

Protocol III: (3) Kazakhstan, United Arab Emirates, United States of America

Protocol IV: (3) Kazakhstan, Paraguay, United States of America

Protocol V: (13) Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Georgia, Latvia, Mali, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Senegal, United Arab Emirates, United States of America

New adherents in 2010

CCW framework convention: (3) Antigua and Barbuda, Dominican Republic, Qatar

Amended Article 1: (2) Dominican Republic, New Zealand

Protocol I: (3) Antigua and Barbuda, Dominican Republic, Qatar

Protocol II: (1) Dominican Republic

Amended Protocol II: (2) Dominican Republic, Gabon

Protocol III: (3) Antigua and Barbuda, Dominican Republic, Qatar

Protocol IV: (4) Antigua and Barbuda, Dominican Republic, Gabon, Qatar

Protocol V: (8) Belgium, China, Cyprus, Gabon, Honduras, Italy, Qatar, Saudi Arabia

List of States Parties⁶ that have acceded to all the CCW Protocols⁷ and the amendment to Article 1 of the Convention

Albania
Australia
Austria
Belarus
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Canada
Chile
China
Costa Rica
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Ecuador
El Salvador
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Guatemala
Guinea-Bissau
Holy See
Hungary
Iceland

⁶ Italy has acceded to all CCW Protocols and the amended Article 1, but is not included in this list as by the time of the submission of the present report the documents of its latest ratification of CCW Protocol V have not yet been submitted to the United Nations Secretary-General, the depositary of the Convention.

⁷ Protocol I, Amended Protocol II, Protocol III, Protocol IV and Protocol V.

India
Ireland
Italy
Jamaica
Latvia
Liberia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Netherlands
Nicaragua
Norway
Paraguay
Peru
Portugal
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
Sierra Leone
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Tunisia
Ukraine
United States of America
Uruguay
