

**Fifth Conference of the High Contracting Parties
to Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War 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 13 of the provisional agenda

Report(s) of any subsidiary organ(s)

Report on national reporting

Submitted by the Coordinator¹ on National reporting under Protocol V

1. The focus of the work for 2011 was on:

(a) Improving the ‘strike rate’ of reporting inter alia by engaging the High Contracting Parties that had not reported. In 2008, 27 of the 48 High Contracting Parties submitted reports and in 2009, those figures increased to 34 out of 69. The Coordinator would be following up with those High Contracting Parties that had not reported through letters and further statements.

(b) Studying the reports submitted to evaluate the extent to which they conform to the Guide. The Coordinator would continue to assess the national reports submitted and the work on national reporting over the past four years.

(c) Proposing possible improvements to the Guide to National Reporting to improve the content of reporting. This would require careful reflection on how the only recently adopted Guide was being implemented by High Contracting Parties and whether there was a need for any modifications to be made. One improvement had been suggested, which was presentational rather than being substantive.

2. The Coordinator on national reporting made a presentation on development of national reporting under Protocol V. It was emphasised that national reports pursuant to Article 10 (2) of Protocol V were the primary source of information for follow-up and information sharing. National reports provide assurance that the provisions of the Protocol V and in particular articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11 are being implemented. Further, compliance with the reporting requirements was an indication of the level of commitment to the principles and rules incorporated in the Protocol.

3. The Coordinator’s main objectives were to enhance the implementation of the High Contracting Parties’ reporting obligations both quantitatively and qualitatively. The long term goal was to create a culture of reporting. The Coordinator emphasised the synergies

¹ In accordance with the relevant decision of the Fourth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War, as contained in paragraph 44 (e) of its Final Document (CCW/P.V/CONF/2010/11), the discussions on National reporting, pursuant to Article 10 (2) (b) of the Protocol were coordinated by Mr. Amandeep S. Gill of India.

that existed between the work on reporting, cooperation and assistance, and universalization.

4. High Contracting Parties at the Fourth Conference had decided to adopt a 'Guide to National reporting' as a tool to be used at the discretion of the parties to facilitate the filling out of forms for national reports, reiterated the recommendation to use the guide in order to provide the information required in national reports in the most comprehensive way possible, continue the evaluation of the reporting mechanism, including the reporting forms and the Guide to National Reporting, and encourage High Contracting Parties and observer States to submit national reports. Finally, it was recalled that the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II decided to harmonise the deadlines for submission of national reports for both APII and Protocol V reports and this was set at 31 March.

5. The Coordinator provided a brief report on the status of reporting for 2011. At the time of the Meeting of Experts, 31 High Contracting Parties had submitted national reports. The reports received covered articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11 as stipulated in paragraphs 24 to 28 of the Final Document of the First Conference. The value of the information provided in national reports for the work of the coordinators on clearance, international cooperation and assistance, and generic preventative measures was underscored.

6. Following this work, the Coordinator recommended that:

(a) All High Contracting Parties and observer States to be encouraged to submit national reports.

(b) High Contracting Parties are encouraged to use the Guide to National Reporting, which was adopted by the Fourth Conference.

(c) The Meeting of Experts in 2012 to continue its examination of the reporting forms and the Guide to National Reporting with a view to making recommendations to the Sixth Conference.

(d) The Coordinator with the support of the CCW Implementation Support Unit to provide an assessment from the national reports submitted on the utility of the Guide to National Reporting and the progress in implementing the provisions of Protocol V for the Meeting of Experts in 2012.
