

**Sixth 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**

29 November 2012

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**Geneva, 12–13 November 2012**

**Summary record of the 4th meeting**

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Tuesday, 13 November 2012, at 4 p.m.

*President:* Mr. Akram ..... (Pakistan)

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Any corrections to the records of the meetings of this Conference will be consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the Conference.

*The meeting was called to order at 5 p.m.*

**Report(s) of any subsidiary organ(s) (continued)**

*Thematic discussion on clearance and the article 4 generic electronic template  
(CCW/P.V/CONF/2012/5)*

1. **The President** indicated that the Coordinator on clearance and article 4 had held consultations since the morning meeting and had drawn up a revised text of paragraph 1 (d). The new text was displayed to the Conference in a PowerPoint presentation. The President took it that the Conference wished to adopt the text as recast.
2. *Paragraph 1 (d), as amended, was adopted.*
3. **Mr. Miano** (Observer for the Philippines), accompanying his statement with a slide presentation, said that explosive remnants of war in the Philippines included remnants of the Second World War, which were mainly obsolete or excess ammunition stockpiled at military storage depots. In addition, bombs from that era had occasionally been dug up at construction sites. Other remnants of war included mortar or artillery ammunition and other highly explosive ordnance remaining from the insurgency in the country in the 1970s and explosive ordnance seized during military operations against non-State armed groups.
4. Currently, there were still more than 300,000 such remnants awaiting destruction, ranging from artillery ammunition to rifle grenades, and some 182,000 rounds of 20 millimetre ammunition awaiting demilitarization. The Philippines had destroyed nearly 4,400 depth charges, anti-submarine missiles, bombs, artillery ammunition and grenades in 2011, with assistance from the United States.
5. The Armed Forces of the Philippines had an annual disposal programme under which a total of 74,000 rounds of assorted unserviceable ammunition had been destroyed in 2012. In order to minimize losses owing to the deterioration of ordnance, avoid accidental explosions and prevent theft, the Armed Forces conducted periodic surveillance and inspection of all storage areas. The military also disseminated information on the Convention. Furthermore, regular training was conducted in ammunition management and explosive ordnance disposal.
6. The Philippines had limited options for the disposal of its stockpile of explosive remnants of war. Until recently, destruction by detonation had been the most common method used. However, the disposal programme had recently been slowed by restrictions on areas authorized for the destruction of munitions by detonation or burning, owing to environmental concerns.
7. A project launched in 2011 to demilitarize nearly 450,000 rounds of 20 millimetre ammunition of the Philippine Air Force was scheduled for completion before the end of 2013. The Armed Forces were also restoring unserviceable mortar and artillery ammunition for use in training exercises, a cost-saving alternative to destruction by detonation. There were also plans to establish a demilitarization facility to rid the country of explosive remnants of war. The Government trusted that such steps would enable the citizens of the Philippines in the near future to live in a country free from the hazards of deadly ordnance.

**Consideration and adoption of the final document** (CCW/P.V/CONF/2012/CRP.1;  
CCW/P.V/CONF/2012/8/Rev.1)

*Paragraphs 1–16*

8. *Paragraphs 1 to 16 were adopted.*

*Paragraphs 17–25*

9. **Mr. Amadei** (Italy) said that the wording of paragraph 20 differed from past practice. Paragraph 47 of the final document of the Fifth Conference (CCW/P.V/CONF/2011/12) addressed the provisional agenda and estimated costs for the Sixth Conference and stated that the Conference had “recommended them for adoption” in 2012. He proposed that similar language should be used instead of the phrase “the Conference confirmed the arrangements for meeting the costs of the Conference”. The forthcoming Conference should be given the right to determine its own cost estimates.

10. **Ms. Loose** (Implementation Support Unit) said that the changes had been made so that the paragraph would better reflect the actual state of affairs. As forthcoming Conferences could be held only after cost estimates were adopted so that provision could be made for interpretation and other conference services, there was now a need to adopt cost estimates in advance, for the following year.

11. **The President**, noting the statement made by the representative of Italy, said that the paragraph would be amended accordingly.

12. *Paragraphs 17 to 25, as amended, were adopted.*

*Paragraphs 26–35*

13. *Paragraphs 26 to 35 were adopted.*

*Paragraphs 36 and 37*

14. **The President** said that paragraph 39 (b) should be amended to indicate that in 2013 Mr. Fernando Guzmán of Chile would be the Coordinator on victim assistance and Ms. Caroline Wörgötter would serve as Friend of the Coordinator on victim assistance. The Coordinator on national reporting would be Mr. Lode Dewaegheneire.

15. *Paragraphs 36 and 37 were adopted.*

*Paragraphs 38–44*

16. **Ms. Loose** (Implementation Support Unit) said that the revised estimated costs contained in document CCW/P.V/CONF/2012/8/Rev.1 should include the cost of summary records, which was estimated at USD 74,300. The total requirements for the Seventh Conference would therefore amount to USD 299,700.

17. **Mr. Simon-Michel** (France) said that the item omitted by the secretariat in the document would appear on the line entitled “Translation of documentation”. He wished to recall the need for strict observance of the established language arrangements, which was of crucial importance for his country, and for the official documents of the Conference to be translated. The Conference might wish, however, to do away with summary records altogether, as that could be a worthwhile cost-saving measure given that they were of limited usefulness.

18. **Ms. Mehta** (India), in response to a suggestion by the President that the matter could be decided at the current meeting if there was a consensus, said that it would be best not to take a decision in haste on whether to forego summary records, as that would not allow enough time to consider the matter in all its aspects. She therefore proposed postponing a decision until the Seventh Conference.

19. **Mr. Simon-Michel** (France) said that he was willing to defer the decision. As long as his concern for the principle of equality of languages was met, he had no difficulty waiting to give delegations time to consider the issue of summary records.

20. **Mr. Amadei** (Italy), referring to paragraph 43 of the draft final document, said that he had the same concern that he had raised earlier, over paragraph 20. While his delegation had nothing against a change in that vein, he wished to draw attention to the fact that the departure from past practice apparently constituted a substantial change.

21. **Ms. Loose** (Implementation Support Unit) said that the wording of the current document had been amended to reflect the fact that costs of forthcoming Conferences must be approved in advance. The same wording was used for events held for the Biological Weapons Convention.

22. **Mr. Amadei** (Italy) said that costs were adopted for the intersessional meetings of the Review Conferences of the Biological Weapons Convention, as the participants in those meetings did not have authority over funding. Previous Conferences had been on a sound legal and financial footing and had not had any difficulty in meeting interpretation, translation and other requirements. He trusted that that situation would continue in future.

23. *Paragraphs 38 to 44 were adopted.*

24. *The draft final document of the Sixth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V as a whole, as amended, was adopted.*

#### **Closure of the Conference**

25. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, **the President** declared the Conference closed.

*The meeting rose at 5.50 p.m.*