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# **Group of Governmental Experts 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

**Report of the Meetings of Military and Technical Experts**

## **Report of Chair of Meetings of Military and Technical Experts**

1. There were two meetings of the Military and Technical Experts during this session. There was also a meeting on the subject of self-destruction mechanism convened by the Friend of the Chair on Definitions at the request of the Chair of the Meetings of Military and Technical Experts. There were numerous other consultations conducted by the Friends of the Chair on issues such as anti-runway and anti-ship munitions, nature of safeguarding mechanisms and other technical issues.

2. The two meetings were conducted in a positive and constructive atmosphere. Amongst the issues discussed were munitions proposed for exclusion from the scope of the protocol or from the definition of cluster munition, including anti-ship, anti-runway and direct fire munitions. Fruitful discussions were also held on safeguarding mechanisms, including in particular self-destruction mechanism, self-propelled munitions and air defence.

3. The discussions and consultations were conducted in an excellent atmosphere and contributed substantially to improving the understanding of experts of the different concepts and terminology in use across different military cultures and equipments. Informal consultations are continuing on key issues such as safe-guarding mechanisms and the Chair is hopeful that positive outcomes in these areas will contribute substantively to the overall work of the GGE. The Friends of the Chair will update the meeting on some of the details of these discussions.

4. The Chair is grateful to all delegations for their contributions during this week. The Chair also thanks the Friends of the Chair and the Secretariat for their unwavering support. Finally, the Chair expresses his gratitude to the Chair of the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE), for his trust and confidence, as well as his readiness to continuing his work in support of the Chair's mandate.

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