
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

7 March 2011

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2011, First Session

Geneva, 21–25 February 2011

Agenda item 10

Adoption of the procedural report

Procedural Report

1. The 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 (CCW) held at Geneva on 25 and 26 November 2010 decided, as contained in paragraph 35 of its Final Report (CCW/MSP/2010/5), that:

“The Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) will meet from 21 to 25 February, from 28 March to 1 April and from 22 to 26 August 2011.

The GGE will conduct preparatory work for the Fourth Review Conference under the overall responsibility of the President Designate.

The GGE will continue its negotiations informed by the Chair’s Text¹ on a draft protocol on cluster munitions, and taking into account other past, present and future proposals by delegations, with a view to making a recommendation for consideration by the Fourth Review Conference, to address urgently the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions, while striking a balance between military and humanitarian considerations. The work of the GGE will be supported by experts on relevant issues.

The GGE will report to the Fourth Review Conference.”

2. The Meeting of the High Contracting Parties decided, as contained in paragraph 36 of its Final Report (CCW/MSP/2010/5), to convene the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention from 14 to 25 November 2011.

3. The Meeting of the High Contracting Parties decided, as contained in paragraph 39 of its Final Report (CCW/MSP/2010/5), to designate Ambassador Gancho Ganev of Bulgaria as President of the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention to be held in 2011, and appointed Minister Jesus S. Domingo of the Philippines as Chairperson of the Group of Governmental Experts.

4. The First 2011 Session of the Group of Governmental Experts was held at Geneva from 21 to 25 February 2011.

¹ Document CCW/GGE/2010-II/WP.2

5. The following States Parties to the Convention participated in the work of the Group: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Holy See, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

6. The following Signatory State to the Convention also participated in the work of the Group: Egypt.

7. The following States not parties to the Convention participated as observers: Azerbaijan, Ghana, Haiti, Indonesia, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, and Thailand.

8. The representatives of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) took part in the work of the Group.

9. The representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) took part in the work of the Group. The representatives of the European Union and Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) also participated in the work of the Group.

10. The representatives of the following non-governmental organizations took part in the work of the Group: Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) (DanChurchAid, Handicap International, IKV Pax Christi, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Landmine Action, Norwegian People's Aid), Human Rights Watch, and Mines Action Canada.

11. The First 2011 Session of the Group of Governmental Experts was opened on 21 February 2011 by the Chairperson, Minister Jesus S. Domingo of the Philippines. He was assisted by Lt. Col. Leonidas F. Hidalgo of the Philippines, as Chairperson of the Meetings of the Military and Technical Experts; and the Friends of the Chair: Mr. Philip Kimpton of Australia, Ms. Anesa Kundurović of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Lt. Col. Jim Burke of Ireland. Mr. Bantan Nugroho, Head of the CCW Implementation Support Unit, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, Geneva Branch, served as Secretary of the Group.

12. The Group held plenary meetings and informal group meetings. At its first plenary meeting, on 21 February 2011, the Group adopted its Agenda as contained in annex I, and agreed to also use the same agenda for its Second and Third 2011 sessions. The Group also confirmed the Rules of Procedure as adopted and used by the Third Review Conference (CCW/CONF.III/11, Part III) and adopted its Programme of Work as contained in annex II.

13. At the same plenary meeting, the following States participated in a general exchange of views: Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, Cuba, France, Germany, Greece, India, Israel, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Turkey, and United States of America. The ICRC and CMC also participated in the general exchange of views.

14. During the course of the session, the Group of Governmental Experts considered documents CCW/GGE/2011-I/1 to CCW/GGE/2011-I/3, CCW/GGE/2011-I/WP.1, and CCW/GGE/2011-I/CRP.1, as listed in annex III. These documents are available in all official languages through the Official Document System of the United Nations at <http://documents.un.org>, and the CCW website at <http://www.unog.ch/disarmament/CCW>.

15. The Group of Governmental Experts heard a presentation by the United States of America on “Shelf Life of U.S. Cluster Munitions”.
16. In accordance with the decisions taken by the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention in 2010, the Group of Governmental Experts devoted time for the consideration of the preparation for the 2011 Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention at the plenary meetings on 23 and 25 February 2011. The meetings were chaired by the President-designate of the Fourth Review Conference, Ambassador Gancho Ganev of Bulgaria, and considered a paper presented by the President-designate titled “Draft Rules of Procedure of the Fourth Review Conference 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” as contained in CCW/GGE/2011-I/3.
17. The Group of Governmental Experts decided to recommend for adoption by the Fourth Review Conference the “Provisional Agenda of the Fourth Review Conference”, as contained in CCW/GGE/2010-II/INF.1, and the “Draft Rules of Procedure of the Fourth Review Conference 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”, as contained in CCW/GGE/2011-I/3.
18. At its final plenary meeting, on 25 February 2011, the Group of Governmental Experts considered the report of the Chairperson.
19. As decided by the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention in 2010, the Group of Governmental Experts will hold its Second 2011 Session from 28 March to 1 April 2011 and its Third 2011 Session from 22 to 26 August 2011.
20. At the same plenary meeting, the Group of Governmental Experts adopted the procedural report of its First 2011 Session, as contained in document CCW/GGE/2011-I/CRP.1, as orally amended, which is being issued as document CCW/GGE/2011-I/4.

Annex I

Agenda

as adopted at the first plenary meeting on 21 February 2011

1. Opening of the session of the Group of Governmental Experts
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Confirmation of the rules of procedure
4. Organization of work of the Group of Governmental Experts and its Meetings of Military and Technical Experts
5. Background documentation
6. Cluster munitions
7. Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention
8. Report of the Meetings of Military and Technical Experts
9. Any other issue
10. Adoption of the procedural report

Annex II

Programme of work

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Programme</i>
Monday, 21 February 2011	10.00–13.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opening of the session; General exchange of views; ▪ Cluster munitions
	15.00–18.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cluster munitions
Tuesday, 22 February 2011	10.00–13.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cluster munitions
	15.00–18.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cluster munitions
Wednesday, 23 February 2011	10.00–13.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preparation for the Fourth Review Conference (organizational issues)
	15.00–18.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cluster munitions
Thursday, 24 February 2011	10.00–13.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cluster munitions
	15.00–18.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cluster munitions
Friday, 25 February 2011	10.00–13.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cluster munitions
	15.00–18.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preparation for the Fourth Review Conference (universalization) ▪ Wrap-up; Adoption of the procedural report; Closure of the session

Annex III**List of documents**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
CCW/GGE/2011-I/1	Provisional agenda – Submitted by the Chairperson
CCW/GGE/2011-I/2	Provisional Programme of Work – Submitted by the Chairperson
CCW/GGE/2011-I/3	Draft Rules of Procedure of the Fourth Review Conference 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 – Proposal by the President designate
CCW/GGE/2011-I/4	Procedural Report
CCW/GGE/2011-I/WP.1	Proposal for provisions on transfers for consideration in a CCW Protocol on Cluster Munitions – Submitted by Austria, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg and Switzerland
CCW/GGE/2011-I/CRP.1 [English only]	Draft Procedural Report
CCW/GGE/2011-I/INF.1 and Add.1 [English/French/Spanish only]	List of participants
CCW/GGE/2011-I/MISC.1 [English/French/Spanish only]	Provisional List of participants
