REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE STATES 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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# INTERIM REPORT OF THE RESUMED SESSION OF THE REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE STATES 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

### Introduction

- 1. On 13 October 1995, the Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons decided that, in view of the additional time needed to complete its work, it would continue its work at resumed sessions, to be held in Geneva from 15 to 19 January 1996 and from 22 April to 3 May 1996 with a view to concluding the review and amendment of Protocol II. It was agreed that the session scheduled to be held from 15 to 19 January 1996 would focus its deliberations on Articles 2 6 of Protocol II of the Convention relating to prohibitions or restrictions on the use of mines, booby-traps and other devices and its Technical Annex.
- 2. On 12 December 1995 the General Assembly adopted resolution 50/74, which, inter alia, reads as follows:
  - "5. <u>Takes note</u> of the interim report of the Review Conference of the States 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, held at Vienna from 25 September to 13 October 1995;
  - 6. <u>Commends</u> the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV) to all States, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to this instrument at an early date;
  - 7. <u>Calls upon</u> the States Parties to intensify their efforts in order to conclude negotiations on a strengthened Protocol II;
  - 8. <u>Takes note</u> of the decision of the Review Conference to continue its work at resumed sessions at Geneva from 15 to 19 January and 22 April to 3 May 1996;
  - 9. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General to continue furnishing needed assistance to the Review Conference;

10. Again calls upon the maximum number of States to attend the Review Conference."

# Organization of the resumed session of the Conference

- 3. The resumed session was opened on 15 January by the President of the Conference, Ambassador Johan Molander of Sweden. At its opening meeting, the Conference received a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations which was delivered by Mr. Vladimir Petrovsky, Director General of the United Nations Office at Geneva. Mr. Sohrab Kheradi, Deputy Director of the United Nations Centre for Disarmament Affairs, continued to serve as Secretary-General of the Conference.
- 4. The following 43 States Parties to the Convention participated in the session:

Australia Germany Norway Austria Greece Pakistan Belgium Hungary Poland Bulgaria India Russian Federation Canada Ireland Slovakia China Israel Slovenia Croatia Italy Spain Cuba Japan Sweden Cyprus Latvia Switzerland Czech Republic Liechtenstein Tunisia Denmark Malta Ukraine Ecuador United Kingdom of Great Britain Mexico Finland Mongolia and Northern Ireland France Netherlands United States of America New Zealand Uruguay

5. In accordance with Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure, the following 33 States non-parties to the Convention participated in the session as observers:

Afghanistan Honduras Portugal Algeria Indonesia Republic of Korea Angola Iran (Islamic Romania Argentina Republic of) Singapore Armenia Jordan South Africa Bolivia Libyan Arab Jamahiriya Syrian Arab Republic Brazil Luxembourg Thailand Burundi Turkey Morocco Union of Myanmar Chile Nicaragua Colombia Nigeria Viet Nam **Egypt** Peru Holy See **Philippines** 

6. In accordance with Rules 46, 47 and 48 of the Rules of Procedure, representatives of the United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs,

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, League of Arab States, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and Sovereign Order of Malta participated in the session as observers. In accordance with Rule 49 of the Rules of Procedure, 25 non-governmental organizations attended public meetings of the session.

7. The Conference adopted, at its 9th plenary meeting on 15 January 1996, the arrangements for meeting the costs of the resumed sessions, as contained in document CCW/CONF.I/10, in accordance with Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure.

### Work of the resumed session

- 8. The resumed session held two plenary meetings on 15 and 19 January 1996, respectively. As decided, in the course of its work the Conference concentrated its efforts on Articles 2-6 of Protocol II and its Technical Annex. Its substantive work was carried out in the framework of open-ended informal Presidential consultations. In addition, a meeting of military experts was convened by the President on 18 January 1996 with a view to addressing relevant issues.
- 9. As agreed, the work of the resumed session proceeded on the basis of the proposals contained in documents CCW/CONF.I/1, CCW/CONF.I/WP.2/Add.1, CCW/CONF.I/WP.3 and CCW/CONF.I/WP.4\* without prejudice to the positions held by States Parties on issues under consideration and without prejudice to further proposals that might be made by States Parties in that regard. A number of new documents were submitted by delegations at the resumed session. A list of the documents is annexed to the present report.
- 10. At its 10th plenary meeting on 19 January, the President submitted a revised version of the President's text (CCW/CONF.I/WP.4 /Rev.1) incorporating certain changes to Articles 2-6 and the Technical Annex of the draft revised Protocol II contained therein for the consideration of delegations, and as a basis for the work of the concluding session of the Review Conference. The revised version of the President's text reflects the stage of negotiations as seen by the President and does not commit any delegation.

CCW/CONF.I/INF.8

# Annex

# LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Symbol	Title or description
CCW/CONF.I/9	"Note verbale dated 25 October 1995 from the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva"
CCW/CONF.I/10	"Estimated costs of the resumed sessions of the Review Conference of the States 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/CONF.I/11	"Interim Report of the resumed session of the Review Conference of the States 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/CONF.I/WP.4 /Rev.1	"President's text"
CCW/CONF.I/CRP.1	"Specifications on Detectability (for Technical Annex) - Proposal submitted by the United Kingdom"
CCW/CONF.I/CRP.2	"Article 2 - Proposal submitted by Ukraine"
CCW/CONF.I/CRP.3	"Article 3 of the Technical Annex - Proposal submitted by Ukraine"
CCW/CONF.I/CRP.4	"Technical annex - Proposal submitted by France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and United States"
CCW/CONF.I/CRP.5	"Anti-handling devices - Background paper submitted by the Netherlands delegation"
CCW/CONF.I/CRP.6	"Draft Interim Report of the resumed session of the Review Conference of the States 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/CONF.I/SR.9-10	Summary records of the 9th and 10th meetings
CCW/CONF.I/INF.3/Add.3*	"List of States Parties and Signatories"
CCW/CONF.I/INF.6	"List of Offices and Telephone Numbers"
CCW/CONF.I/INF.7	"Provisional List of Participants"

"List of Participants"