

**GROUP OF GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS 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/GGE/II/INF.2  
8 July 2002

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Second Session  
Geneva, 15-26 July 2002

**Letter to military participants of the Group of Governmental Experts of States Parties  
to the CCW concerning the meetings of military experts on ERW**

1. The Group of Governmental Experts of States Parties to the CCW agreed at its first session (Geneva 21-24 May 2002) to have meetings of military experts on the issue of ERW at its next session in July. These meetings offer military participants in the Governmental Group of Experts a forum to discuss and exchange views on military aspects of the work on ERW conducted in the Group of Governmental Experts.
2. The purpose of the attached provisional agenda for the meetings of military experts on ERW is to facilitate the preparation of participating experts. It is the intention of the Chairperson of these meetings to identify and discuss military issues that are relevant to the ERW-related work of the CCW Group of Governmental Experts.
3. The detailed provisional agenda for the meetings of military experts on ERW is a preliminary document. Its main purpose is to stimulate discussions among military experts on ERW issues. It is open to amendments. Suggestions and proposals for the improvement of the provisional agenda are highly welcomed.
4. Participating military experts are invited to make presentations or to submit papers on the items of the agenda. In order to ensure an extensive exchange of views and a thorough discussion of relevant military ERW issues, it is advised to limit individual presentations to a maximum of 10 minutes.
5. For the purpose of time management, scheduling of presentations and technical support (xeroxing, Powerpoint presentation, beamer etc.) participants who would like to make presentations or submit papers are invited to contact the Swiss military advisor at the Swiss Mission in Geneva (Dr. René Haug; Tel. +41 22 749 24 26 or <mailto:rene.haug@eda.admin.ch>)

GS Colonel Erwin Dahinden,  
Switzerland  
Chair of the meetings of military experts  
on ERW

**CCW Group of Governmental Experts on Explosive Remnants of War  
Meetings of Military Experts**

**Proposed Programme of Work**

**Sessions**

Tuesday, 16 July 2002                      Session I: 15.00-18.00

Friday, 19 July 2002                      Sessions II: 10.00 – 13.00

On Wednesday and Thursday the Chairman of the Meetings of Military Experts will be available for informal consultations at the request of individual delegations.

**Provisional Agenda**

- 1. Categories and types of relevant munitions that could cause humanitarian problems after a conflict**
  - a) munitions used in conflict (armed, failed to explode as intended, others)
  - b) munitions containing both a high explosive and activated fuse systems
  - c) failed munitions that present a high risk to military personnel or to the civilian population
  - d) mass produced and massively used munitions vs. specialized and sparingly used munitions
  - e) other categories and types of munitions
- 2. General Measures to reduce the risk of munitions becoming ERW**
  - a) Quality of production
  - b) Ammunition management
  - c) Minimizing deterioration of ammunition
  - d) Handling/charging
  - e) Adequate Testing
  - f) Military best practices and regulations
  - g) Conditions of use
  - h) Accuracy of ammunition
  - i) Other factors
- 3. Technical improvements for relevant types of munitions, including submunitions, which could reduce the risk of such munitions from becoming ERW**
  - a) Technical improvements, design
  - b) Technical devices (self neutralization, self –deactivation and self-destruction)
  - c) Others technical improvements
  - d) Factors to consider with respect to technical improvements (costs, modification, replacement)

**4. Warning, Safeguarding and Clearance**

- a) Warning military personnel and civilian population of ERW
- b) Relevant information for the clearance of ERW, including sharing information on military targeting and weapon design
- c) Safeguarding and securing ERW in order to minimize humanitarian problems for the civilian population
- d) Safe clearance
- e) clearance by competent military personnel
- f) clearance by competent civilians
- g) ERW clearance standards
- h) Military training of ERW clearance specialists
- i) Other relevant issues

**5. Any other business**

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