



MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE CCM COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Held on Thursday 28th January 2021

from 09:00 to 10:00 hours

1. Present:

Switzerland – 2RC President

H.E. Mr. Félix Baumann

Ms. Aline Berdoz

United Kingdom – 10MSP President-Designate

Ms. Elenora Saggese

Ms. Stephanie Baker

Sri Lanka – Immediate past President (9MSP)

Ms. Udani Gunawardene

Australia

Mr. Diwaka Prakash

Austria

Mr. Christoph Sternat

Mr. Adolf Brückler

Chile

Ms. Pamela Moraga

Iraq

Mr. Mohammed Ridha Al-Haidari

Mexico

Mr. Alonso Martínez

Ms. Pía Gómez Robledo

Montenegro

Mr. Goran Šćepanović

Mr. Nikola Ražnatović

Namibia

Mr. Colin Namalambo

Netherlands

Mr. Reint Vogelaar

Philippines

Mr. Jonelle John Domingo

Spain

Mr. Juan Manglano

Sweden

Mr. John Brante

CMC

Ms. Kasia Derlicka-Rosenbauer

ICRC

Ms. Wen Zhou

UNODA

Ms. Silvia Mercogliano

Ms. Erika Kawahara

Apologies received:

New Zealand

Zambia

Apologies not received:

Afghanistan

Implementation Support Unit

Ms. Sheila N. Mweemba

Mr. Emad Al-Juhaishi

Ms. Elaine Weiss

2. Opening remarks by the President

The 2RC President, Ambassador Félix Baumann, warmly welcomed members of the Coordination Committee to its first Meeting in 2021 under the Swiss Presidency and wished them well in the new year. He expressed to the Committee that he looked forward to continuing to work with its members on the Convention for a further extended period as a result of the postponement of Part 2 of the CCM Second Review Conference (2RC).

3. Approval of the Minutes of the previous Coordination Committee Meetings

The Committee approved the Minutes of the Coordination Committee Meetings held on Friday, 30 October 2020 and Thursday, 5 November 2020 as accurate records of what had transpired during the two Meetings.

4. Discussion on the modalities of hosting the 2RC Part 2 considering the continued negative health situation in Switzerland and following the announcements made by the Swiss Federal Council on Wednesday 13 January 2021

The President reaffirmed that the health situation in Switzerland had remained complicated and that the latest announcement made by the Swiss Federal Council on 13 January 2021 included measures to further limit gatherings in the public sphere to 5 persons. These measures made it impossible to hold 2RC Part 2 from 4 to 5 February 2021 as was decided in November 2020. Echoing his letter to States Parties transmitted on 15 January 2021, the President reiterated his commitment to convene 2RC Part 2 in a hybrid format with the participation of at least 1 person per delegation at the Palais des Nations in Geneva as soon as practically possible. In this regard, to be able to react quickly should the situation change, the Presidency had with the help of UNODA, provisionally secured a room at the Palais for 29 to 30 March 2021. A decision to hold the Meeting could therefore be taken approximately three weeks before the date.

Ambassador Baumann further informed that the Swiss Presidency intended to conclude most work on substantive matters by mid-March. He added that his team had continued to be in close contact with the 10MSP President-Designate, the United Kingdom, to ensure as smooth a transition as possible of the CCM presidencies. He promised to come back to update the Committee as soon as there was additional information on the various options the two teams were considering with regard to the organization of formal CCM Meetings after the Review Conference.

The President also recommended that a decision had to be taken regarding the extension requests submitted by States Parties with impending deadlines. He recalled that three States Parties (Bulgaria, Peru and Bosnia and Herzegovina) would have deadlines falling before the 2RC Part 2. He suggested that a silence procedure be launched to take the 3 decisions as the deadlines would be ahead of the anticipated March 2021 2RC Part 2. He informed that the Presidency would be in contact with the relevant States Parties to agree on the wording of the silence procedure, which would take place in February 2021 ahead of the 1 March 2021 deadlines.

Ambassador Baumann restated that all other decisions not essential to the smooth functioning of the Convention including those on the other two remaining extension requests would be taken at the 2RC

Part 2, except if deadlines are falling before the meeting can be held. He concluded with thanks to the Committee members for their flexibility and support in moving the process forward.

5. Update from the Presidency on the substantial documents and remaining substantial issues in the preparation of the 2RC Part 2

The President reminded the Committee that during the 2RC Part 1, he had requested delegations to submit any written comments on the 2RC documents and decisions to his team by 18 December 2020. He reported that the Presidency had not received any further comments on the Review Document with only a limited number of comments on the other documents, which could be summarized as follows:

- Lausanne Action Plan: comments made only on the Universalization and Victim Assistance sections,
- Lausanne Declaration: not many comments were received on the document with most comments made on paragraph 8,
- Document on finances: a few minor adjustments were still needed,
- Convention machinery: a number of comments made on some of the elements including the composition of the Coordination Committee, organization of intersessional meetings and the recruitment of future ISU Directors.

Ambassador Baumann informed that the Presidency had made contact and would continue to consult with the delegations that had provided comments with the aim of reaching a consensus on the documents and decisions. This included on the issue of multilingualism which was raised during consideration of the Review Conference Interim Report in November 2020. He outlined that the Presidency would resume bilateral consultations with the relevant parties to move forward in reaching an agreement before the March 2021 tentative dates of the 2RC Part 2 or thereafter should the meeting be further delayed.

In contributing to the discussion, the United Kingdom expressed its deepest appreciation to the President's efforts and enquired if the President intended to organize an informal meeting to discuss the open issues or continue with bilateral meetings. In response, Ambassador Baumann clarified that while he had not excluded the possibility of holding another informal consultative meeting, he intended to first attempt to resolve the issues bilaterally or with groups of the States that commented.

6. Update by thematic coordinators on activities since Part 1 of the Review Conference

6.1 International Cooperation and Assistance (Montenegro & the Netherlands)

Montenegro, on behalf of the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance, pointed out that while the pandemic had unfortunately affected the work of the Coordination Committee members, they could still be satisfied with what had been achieved to date and would continue carrying out their mandate in the lead up to the 2RC Part 2. Montenegro conveyed its hope that the health situation would allow for the 2RC to resume in the near future.

Montenegro reported that the Coordinators had participated in a victim assistance retreat organized by the APMBBC VA Committee on 15 January 2021. The aim of the retreat had been to increase

coordination between relevant disarmament and human rights Conventions to address challenges in victim assistance and to promote synergies between the Conventions. The retreat provided the Coordinators an opportunity to express their views and priorities in the CCM context and anticipated the adoption of the Lausanne Action Plan that would inform the future work of Montenegro and the incoming Co-Coordinator to take over from the Netherlands. Montenegro informed that the advantages of the CCM’s country coalition concept and the APMBC’s individualized approach were highlighted during the retreat as comparative international cooperation and assistance strategies.

6.2 Universalization (Chile & the Philippines)

Chile, on behalf of the Universalization Coordinators, reported that the Coordinators, along with the 2RC Presidency and 10MSP Presidency-Designate, had attended a briefing with the Global Protection Cluster which convened to identify priority countries for outreach to promote the universalization of the Convention. The Coordinators, Switzerland and the United Kingdom had also met with the ISU Director the previous day to discuss universalization strategies with an aim to avoid the duplication of efforts among the Global Protection Cluster and other organizations and initiatives working on the ground. Chile invited the 2RC Presidency to provide the Coordination Committee more information on the meeting with the Global Protection Cluster.

The 2RC Presidency informed that the Global Protection Cluster had approached the Presidency to enquire how best to advance universalization of the CCM. The Presidency then shared an identified list of priority states with them which included the African signatory States, Yemen, and South Sudan.

6.3 Stockpile Destruction and Retention (Australia & Austria)

Australia, on behalf of the Stockpile Destruction Coordinators, expressed their support of the President’s proposal to launch a silence procedure to take decisions on the extension requests given the uncertainty caused by the ongoing pandemic. Australia conveyed that the Coordinators looked forward to meeting in person as soon as the situation permitted it.

Ambassador Baumann echoed Australia’s eagerness to meet physically again as virtual meetings had their limitations in advancing the work of the Convention. He added that physical interaction was important in the promotion of personal wellbeing. He expressed his hope to be able to organize the last Coordination Committee Meeting under the Swiss Presidency in-person.

7. **Next Coordination Committee Meeting**

In closing the meeting, the President reiterated that he and his team would continue to work on the outstanding substantive matters while waiting for further decisions to be taken by the Swiss Federal Council at the end of February to ascertain when Part 2 of the 2RC would be held. The President thanked all who were present for attending the Meeting and informed that the next Coordination Committee Meeting would likely take place in a month’s time. Details pertaining to that Meeting would be communicated by the ISU closer to the date.

+++++