

United Nations  Nations Unies

HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL.: 1 (212) 963.1234 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4879

REFERENCE: ODA/13-2012/CCW-PV-MX & 6th Conf

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Representatives of Member States to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the 1980 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) and its Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V).

The Secretary-General would like to recall that pursuant to Article 10 of Protocol V and the relevant decision by the First Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol (Geneva, 5 November 2007), as contained in paragraph 42 of its Final Document (CCW/P.V/CONF/2007/1), annual conferences of High Contracting Parties to the Protocol shall be held for the purpose of consultations and cooperation on all issues related to the operation of the Protocol. Furthermore, the First Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V decided to establish a mechanism for consultation and cooperation consisting of informal Meetings of experts, chaired by Coordinators, and that the work of the meetings of experts shall be considered by the Conferences of the High Contracting Parties, as contained in paragraphs 38 and 42 of its Final Document.

In this regard, the Secretary-General would like to recall that the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention (Geneva, 14 to 25 November 2011) decided to hold in Geneva the Sixth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V on 12 and 13 November 2012, and the Meeting of Experts from 25 to 27 April 2012, as contained in the Final Document of the Fourth Review Conference, CCW/CONF.IV/4/Add.1, Decision 5, paragraph 1 (ii) and (iii).

Pursuant to the above decisions, the Secretary-General has the honour to convene the Meeting of Experts and the Sixth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War and to invite all States which have notified the Depositary of their consent to be bound by Protocol V to participate in it. The Secretary-General also has the honour to invite States not parties to Protocol V to participate in the Meeting of Experts and the Sixth Conference as Observers.

The Secretary-General takes this opportunity to recall that in accordance with Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure, adopted by the First Conference in 2007, as contained in Annex II of document CCW/P.V/CONF/2007/1 “[t]he credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference, if possible not later than 24 hours after the opening of the Conference. [...] The credentials shall be issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs”. Credentials shall be submitted to the CCW Implementation Support Unit at the address indicated below.

The Secretary-General wishes to remind the Permanent Representatives that, in accordance with Article 10 (3) of Protocol V, “[t]he costs of the Conference of High Contracting Parties shall be borne by the High Contracting Parties and States not parties participating in the Conference, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately”.

Concerning the matters of participation and costs, once the Secretariat receives an official written communication, i.e. a note verbale from the Permanent Missions containing a list of its members of delegation, the Secretariat will consider the States to be participating in and bearing the costs of the meeting in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment. This also applies to delegations which are identified by conference officers as attending the meetings even when a note verbale has not been received by the Secretariat.

For further information with regard to the Meeting of Experts and the Sixth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, the States are invited to contact:

Mr. Bantan Nugroho
 Head of the CCW Implementation Support Unit
 Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch)
 United Nations Office at Geneva
 Palais des Nations, Office C-115
 CH-1211 Geneva 10
 Switzerland

Telephone: (+41-22) 917-1151
 Fax: (+41-22) 917-0054
 E-mail: ccw@unog.ch
 Website: <http://www.unog.ch/ccw>

The Secretary-General of the United Nations avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Representatives of Member States to the United Nations the assurances of his highest consideration.

7 February 2012

T. C. H.