

Statement of Slovenia
Agenda item 6: Exchange of views on proposed post-Third Review
Conference machinery and meetings

10 April 2014

Mr. President-Designate, thank you for the floor and welcome to Geneva.

At the outset I would like to commend Mozambique for its leadership and dedication in preparation of the Maputo Review Conference, especially Ambassador Pedro Comissario and his team.

Slovenia also aligns itself with the statement of European Union.

We welcome the draft document **Proposal for a meeting programme and related implementation machinery 2014–2019**, which is a good contribution for our deliberations in Maputo. We support your proposal to continue annual meetings of the States Parties until 2019.

In, our view the structured preparatory process in the form of inter-sessional meetings proved to be useful for the States Parties. Slovenia welcomes new structures that you propose in your document. It remains to be seen how they will function in practice. Their success will mainly depend on our common political will and cooperative approach.

Mr. President-Designate, let me comment on few specific points.

The Committee on Article 5 Implementation is very important for the Convention. Its role in the process of screening of extension requests proved to be invaluable and needs to be preserved in the future. In this context, we welcome the participation of ICBL and ICRC representatives in the Committee, whose expertise brought an added value to the Committee in the past. We would advise to keep the reference to their presence along with the presence of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) in the Committee.

The Committee on Cooperative Compliance

We welcome your proposal to create this new Committee with its main task to facilitate compliance. We expect that the Committee will properly address the use of anti-personnel mines in cooperative and supportive manner and in dialogue with the State Party in question. We find it suitable that UNODA, ICRC and ICBL experts assist the Committee in its deliberations.

Special Envoy of the States Parties and Experts Forum on Victim Assistance

Slovenia is convinced that the humanitarian dimension of mine action – victim assistance – should remain a key priority of the States Parties. This is why we support your proposal to establish a special envoy for assistance to mine victims. However, considering difficult budgetary situation of the ISU, we would like to know more about financial implications. In the context of victim assistance, we see the idea of continuing the Committee for Mine Victim Assistance still interesting and worth to consider further before we take a final decision.

Two Coordinators on the enhancement of cooperation and assistance

Coordinated cooperation and assistance is vital for the success of the Convention. States Parties should do more to optimise the use of mine-action-related assistance. Coordination among state donors, including those that are not parties to the Convention, international organisations and private sector should be increased. We support the idea to establish coordinators for cooperation and assistance. We would propose to appoint one single coordinator instead of two. Such a coordinator from a donor country could be succeeded by a coordinator from an affected country.

The role and composition of the coordinating committee

The Coordinating Committee plays a major role in the ongoing activities of the Convention. Our experience from the presidency of 13 MSP makes us a staunch advocate of the Coordinating Committee. We believe that the Committee should keep its mandate and be chaired by the current President. We also agree with the proposed composition and would like to see representatives of UNODA, ICBL and ICRC taking part in the work of the Committee.

Finally, Mr. President-Designate, Slovenia would like to thank you for the work done so far and we remain ready to assist you in the course of preparations for the Third Review Conference of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention in Maputo.

Thank you.