

**Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW)  
2023 Amended Protocol II Group of Experts**

**Provisional Programme of Work**

**9 - 10 November 2023**

*Status: 06 November 2023*

**Thursday 9 November, 10AM – 1PM**

**1. Opening of the meeting**

The President-designate of the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Amended Protocol II will open the 2023 Group of Experts meeting and outline the Programme of Work.

**2. Universalization**

The President-designate will provide an update on universalization efforts carried out to date. Delegations may wish to brief the Group on their efforts to promote the universalization of Amended Protocol II at the regional, sub-regional and national levels.

**3. Operation and status of the Protocol**

The President-designate will inform about the implementation of the obligation to submit national annual reports by High Contracting Parties.

The Group of Experts shall review the operation and status of the Protocol and consider matters arising from the national annual reports, as well as consider measures to increase the rate of national reporting and consistency of the current reporting methodology in the framework of Amended Protocol II.

High Contracting Parties that have an interest in sharing information on other matters relevant to the Protocol and its implementation are encouraged to do so under this item.

**Thursday 9 November, 3PM – 6PM**

**4. Improvised Explosive Devices (IED)**

The Coordinators, Mr. Angel Horna (Peru) and Colonel Philippe Lejeune (France), will open the discussion on IED.

Following the opening there will be a brief general exchange of views on IEDs. Delegations are welcome to share their general views on the IED threat and to provide national updates on the issue.

## **5. Setting the scene: The threat of IED and new types of IED**

The Group of Experts will, in accordance with the objectives and purposes of the Convention, continue exchange of information, on a voluntary basis and subject to national policies on the protection of sensitive information, on national measures, reporting methodologies, best practices and lessons learned on new types of IED, including trigger mechanisms, new components used as main charge and detonators.

A panel discussion will set the scene. This panel will be composed of:

- Mr. Iain Overton and Ms. Chiara Torelli (AOAV);
- Mr. Harald Schmittgall (GICHD);
- Lieutenant-colonel Jean-Michel Granger (French Ministry for the Armed Forces).

After the panel discussions, delegations are encouraged to exchange information on this topic. By doing so, delegations are invited to address the following guiding questions in their interventions:

- With which new types of IED have you been confronted?
- Have you been confronted with new components used as main charge and detonators or new types of trigger mechanisms?
- Is there information on similar types found across neighboring countries? Are there new precursors and other device materials entering your territory that were not seen a year ago? If yes, were you able to observe how these new components have been acquired or have entered your territory?
- How is the information on new types of IED managed in your context?
- What is the most up to date data on gendered patterns in IED casualties and fatality rates?
- How does the problem of IED affect people of different ages and genders? (including short-, medium- and longer-term impacts, such as psychological trauma, stigma, as well as economic impacts).

## **6. Methods of Clearance**

The Group of Experts will, in accordance with the objectives and purposes of the Convention, continue exchange of information, on a voluntary basis and subject to national policies on the protection of sensitive information, on national measures, reporting methodologies, best practices and lessons learned on methods of clearance of IED, with a particular focus on urban environments, as well as technical innovations and new means for clearance of IED as part of humanitarian action.

A panel discussion will be held. The panel will be composed of:

- Mr. Matt Wilson (FSD);
- Mr. Stanislas Damjanovic (GICHD).

After the panel discussions, delegations are encouraged to exchange information on the item.

By doing so, delegations are invited to address the following guiding questions in their interventions:

- Are there any noteworthy technical innovations or new means of clearance that have been employed on your territory or by clearance operations under your responsibility?

- What challenges do you encounter with regard to clearance of IED? What challenges do you encounter specifically in urban environments?
- Have you identified good practices or lessons learned regarding the involvement of women in the efforts of clearance of IED?

**Friday 10 November, 10AM – 1PM**

**7. Protection of Civilians: risk education and other methods**

With a view to ultimately compiling guidelines based on existing best practices, recommendations and lessons learned on methods to educate civilians to the risk posed by IED, the Group of Experts will continue its voluntary information exchange on IED risk education methods, campaigns or practices.

The Group of Experts will, in accordance with the objectives and purposes of the Convention, continue exchange of information, on a voluntary basis and subject to national policies on the protection of sensitive information, on national measures, reporting methodologies, best practices and lessons learned on methods to protect civilians from IED.

A panel discussion will set the conceptual framework for the deliberations on IED risk education and other methods to protect civilians from IED. The panel will be composed of:

- Ms. Mariany Monroy Torres (Dirección De Asuntos Políticos Multilaterales, Government of Colombia);
- Ms. Héloïse Pihery (Humanity & Inclusion);
- Ms. Svjetlana Luledžija (Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre, BHMACE);
- Mr. Louis Meresca (ICRC);
- Mr. Hugues Laurence (UNICEF).

After the panel discussions, delegations are encouraged to report on national, regional or international IED risk education methods, campaigns or practices and any other measures undertaken to protect civilians from IED. By doing so, delegations are invited to address the following guiding questions:

- What IED risk education methods, campaigns or practices are being applied in your context in order to raise awareness among the population on the threat?
- How are these risk education efforts being carried out and what other methods are you carrying out to protect civilians from IED?
- Are there any novelties in the way you try to make your constituencies aware of the IED threat? Are there any best practices that you can share?
- Do you have any indications that the IED risk education methods, campaigns or practices carried out led to an increase in detected devices?
- Have you identified good practices or lessons learned regarding the involvement of women in IED risk education and other methods to protect civilians from IED?
- What are the best practices in terms of tailoring IED risk education methods, campaigns and practices to ensure that they are age- and gender-sensitive? Can you share specific examples of initiatives in this regard?

## **8. Relevant developments in other fora**

With respect to other fora addressing the threat posed by IED, the Group of Experts will keep apprised of the relevant developments in their activities, with a view to ensuring complementarity of efforts and awareness raising on topics such as methods to prevent the diversion of precursors, ammunition, explosives and components that may be used for the manufacture of IED.

The panel will be composed of:

- Ms. Nora Allgaier (UNODA);
- Mr. Ralf Wagner (WCO);
- Ms. Hoi Yee Gladys Tong (UNCTED).

Delegations are also invited to provide any other updates on relevant developments in other fora addressing the threat posed by IED. By doing so, delegations are invited to address the following guiding questions:

- Do you have any good practices or lessons learned regarding the efforts to address the threat posed by IED in other fora?
- Do you have any good practices or lessons learned regarding the active promotion of a balanced involvement of women and men in any effort to address the threat posed by IED in other fora?
- How can work on IEDs advance the goals of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda – and vice versa?
- What are the best practices on gender mainstreaming in the field of IEDs? What are the main challenges?
- What practical measures can be taken to integrate the WPS agenda into the work of the GoE on IEDs – and vice versa?

### **Friday 10 November, 3PM – 6PM**

## **9. National and regional responses**

The Group of Experts will, in accordance with the objectives and purposes of the Convention, continue exchange of information, on a voluntary basis and subject to national policies on the protection of sensitive information, on national measures, reporting methodologies, best practices and lessons learned on the development and consolidation of coherent and coordinated national and regional responses to counter the threat posed by IED;

A panel discussion will be held. The panel will be composed of:

- Mr. Theo Bajon (UNIDIR);
- Mr. Paul Amoroso (Small Arms Survey);
- Mr. Rob Hunter-Perkins (Conflict Armament Research);
- Ms. Mitzi Austero (Nonviolence International Southeast Asia).

After the panel discussions, delegations are encouraged to exchange information on the item. By doing so, delegations are invited to address the following guiding questions in their interventions:

- What are the best practices in terms of development and consolidation of coherent and coordinated national and regional responses to counter the threat posed by IED?
- What are the gaps and challenges in national/regional regulation and preparedness regarding IED?
- Has your country used or is planning to use in the near future, to self-assess its capacities, the C-IED Self-Assessment Tool (C-IED SAT) developed by the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)?
- Does your country carry out national/international workshops, seminars, conferences, or training events on C-IED efforts that are open to international participants?

#### **10. Any Other business**

#### **11. Closing of the meeting**

The President-designate will wrap up the work of the Group and will outline his plans for the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II on 14 November 2023.

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