

**Meeting of the High Contracting 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**

26 November 2025

English only

Geneva, 12-14 November 2025

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

General exchange of views

Working paper*

Submitted by Australia on behalf of Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kingdom of the Netherlands, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland *

1. We are deeply concerned that attempts to deny observers the ability to fully participate in the deliberations of Meetings of High Contracting Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) and its Annual Conferences on Protocol V and Amended Protocol II have once again dominated our proceedings. These attempts undermine the principles of inclusivity, transparency and openness that underpin effective multilateralism.
2. Observers to the CCW, including intergovernmental organizations, UN organizations, the ICRC, and civil society, make an essential contribution to the work of the CCW. They provide thoughtful analyses, insights, knowledge, and experience. We, High Contracting Parties to the CCW, highly value these contributions. We note that the ICRC, civil society and other relevant organisations were integral to the development of the CCW leading to its entry into force in 1983.
3. We re-state our continued support for the inclusion of all observers in the work of the CCW, including the full participation of all observers in relevant deliberations, consistent with applicable Rules of Procedure and longstanding established practice.

* The present document was submitted after the deadline in order to reflect the most recent information.

