

MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF
THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND
TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES
AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

APLC/MSP.1/1999/L.7
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Maputo, 3-7 May 1999
Agenda item 17

DRAFT FINAL REPORT

The Final Report of the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction consists of two parts and five annexes as follows:

I. Organization and Work of the First Meeting

II. Maputo Declaration

Annexes:

Annex I: List of Documents

Annex II: Reporting Formats for Article 7

Annex III: President's Paper on Circulation of Article 7 Reports

Annex IV: President's Paper on Intersessional Work

Annex V: Statement by His Excellency Mr. Joaquim Alberto Chissano, President of the Republic of Mozambique, at the opening ceremony of the First Meeting

PART I

ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF THE FIRST MEETING

A. Introduction

1. The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction provides in Article 11, paragraphs 1 and 2:

“1. The States Parties shall meet regularly in order to consider any matter with regard to the application or implementation of this Convention, including:

- “(a) The operation and status of this Convention;
- “(b) Matters arising from the reports submitted under the provisions of this Convention;
- “(c) International cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6;
- “(d) The development of technologies to clear anti-personnel mines;
- “(e) Submissions of States Parties under Article 8; and
- “(f) Decisions relating to submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5.

“2. The First Meeting of the States Parties shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations within one year after the entry into force of this Convention. The subsequent meetings shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations annually until the First Review Conference.”

2. At its fifty-third session, the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 53/77 N welcomed the generous offer by the Government of the Republic of Mozambique to act as host for the First Meeting of the States Parties, and requested the Secretary-General, in accordance with Article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the First Meeting of the States Parties, to take place in Maputo during the week of 3 May 1999.

3. To prepare for the First Meeting, States Parties convened two rounds of open-ended informal consultations at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, to which they also invited States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations.

4. The first round of informal consultations was held on 1 March 1999, the day the Convention entered into force. During the consultations, participants considered a number of issues relating to the organization of the First Meeting including papers containing a draft provisional agenda, a draft programme of work, draft rules of procedure, and provisional estimated costs for convening the First Meeting. No objections were raised in connection with any of the papers considered and it was agreed that they would be finalized in all six languages of the Convention to be put before the First Meeting.

5. The second set of informal consultations took place on 13 April 1999. At that meeting, participants reviewed elements for a proposed draft political declaration to be issued on the occasion of the First Meeting; possible modalities for intersessional work under the Convention; practical ways of circulating the reports to be submitted under Article 7 of the Convention; and the issue of the venue and format of future meetings of the States Parties.

B. Organization of the First Meeting

6. The First Meeting was opened on 3 May 1999 by His Excellency Mr. Joaquim Alberto Chissano, President of the Republic of Mozambique. The opening statement of the President of the Republic of Mozambique is contained in annex V to this report. The First Meeting elected by acclamation the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Mozambique, Dr. Leonardo Santos Simão, as its President in accordance with rule 7 of the Draft Rules of Procedure.

7. At the opening session, statements were made by Mrs. Louise Fréchette, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations; Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity; His Royal Highness Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al Hussein delivering a message to the First Meeting from Her Majesty Queen Noor of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; Ms. Jody Williams, Ambassador for the International Campaign to Ban Landmines; and Ms. Fátima Gulamo of the Mozambican Campaign Against Landmines. In addition, the President of the Meeting read a message addressed to the First Meeting by the President of the United States of America, Mr. William Jefferson Clinton.

8. At its first plenary meeting, on 3 May 1999, the First Meeting adopted its agenda as contained in document APLC/MSP.1/1999/L.1. On the same occasion, the First Meeting adopted its Rules of Procedure as contained in document APLC/MSP.1/1999/L.3, the estimated costs for convening the First Meeting as contained in document APLC/MSP.1/1999/L.5, and its programme of work as contained in document APLC/MSP.1/1999/L.2.

9. Also at its first plenary meeting, the Meeting elected by acclamation the representatives of Honduras, Jordan, Norway and Turkmenistan as Vice-Presidents of the First Meeting in accordance with rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure.

10. The Meeting unanimously confirmed the nomination of Mr. Carlos dos Santos, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mozambique to the United Nations in New York, as the Secretary-General of the Meeting. The nomination had been the result of informal consultations among States Parties.

C. Participation and Credentials in the First Meeting

11. Forty-three States Parties participated in the Meeting: Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Guinea, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, San Marino, Senegal, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

12. Sixty-four States not parties to the Convention participated in the Meeting as observers, in accordance with Article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention and Rule 1, paragraph 1, second sentence, of the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

13. Credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by a person authorized by one of the above, as required by rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting, or credentials in the form of photocopies or facsimiles of such a document, or credentials in the form of information concerning the appointment of representatives to the Meeting received in the form of letters or notes verbales or facsimiles thereof from embassies, permanent missions to the United Nations or other intergovernmental organizations or other government offices or authorities, were received from all 107 States mentioned in paragraphs 11 and 12 above.

14. The Meeting accepted the credentials of the representatives of all of the States mentioned in paragraphs 11 and 12 above.

15. In accordance with Article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention and rule 1, paragraphs 2 and 3, of the Rules of Procedure, the following international organizations and institutions, regional organizations, entities and non-governmental organizations attended the Meeting as observers: Palestine, United Nations, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Office for Project Services, World Food

Programme, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, World Health Organization, European Community, Organization of African Unity, Organization of American States, International Organization of The Francophonie, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Sovereign Military Order of Malta and International Campaign to Ban Landmines.

16. A list of all delegations to the First Meeting is contained in document APLC/MSP.1/1999/INF.1.

D. Work of the First Meeting

17. The First Meeting held plenary meetings from 3 to 7 May, when it concluded its work.

18. The first four plenary meetings were devoted to the general exchange of views under agenda item 10. Eighty-three delegations to the First Meeting made statements in the general exchange of views.

19. At the fifth plenary meeting, on 5 May 1999, the Meeting considered the submission of requests under Article 5 of the Convention. The President informed the Meeting that he had not been notified that any State wished to make such a request at the First Meeting. The Meeting took note of this.

20. At the same meeting, the Meeting considered the submission of requests under Article 8 of the Convention. The President informed the Meeting that he had not been notified that any State wished to make such a request at the First Meeting. The Meeting took note of this.

21. In addition to the plenary meetings, the Meeting held informal consultations on issues related to the operation of the Convention. These included consideration of international cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6 on the topics of mine clearance, victim assistance, socio-economic reintegration and mine awareness, destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines, and development of technologies for mine action.

E. Decisions and recommendations

22. At its fifth plenary meeting, on 5 May 1999, the Meeting considered matters arising from and in the context of reports to be submitted under Article 7, including consideration and adoption of the reporting formats. The reporting formats were adopted as amended and are contained in annex II to this report.

23. At its sixth plenary meeting, on 6 May 1999, the Meeting agreed that the content of the President's Paper on Circulation of Article 7 Reports as amended (APLC/MSP.1/1999/Informal 3/Rev.1) should guide the technical ways and means of circulation of the reports. That Paper is contained in annex III to this report.

24. Following consultations on the President's Paper on Intersessional Work (APLC/MSP.1/1999/Informal 2), the Meeting recognized the importance of having intersessional Standing Committees of Experts on issues related to the operation of the Convention. Subsequently, at its ... plenary meeting, on ... May 1999, the Meeting decided that the intersessional work would be guided by the President's Paper which is contained in annex IV to this report. Further consultations identified the following States Parties as Co-chairs and Rapporteurs for the intersessional work programme:

- Mine clearance Mozambique and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Co-Chairs;
Peru and the Netherlands, Rapporteurs.
- Victim assistance Mexico and Switzerland, Co-Chairs;
socio-economic Nicaragua and Japan, Rapporteurs
integration and mine
awareness .
- Stockpile destruction Hungary and Mali, Co-Chairs;
Malaysia and the Slovak Republic, Rapporteurs.
- Technologies for Cambodia and France, Co-Chairs;
mine action Yemen and Germany, Rapporteurs.
- General status and South Africa and Canada, Co-Chairs;
operation of the Zimbabwe and Belgium, Rapporteurs.
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25. The Meeting further noted that the first sessions of the Standing Committees of Experts would take place in Geneva on the following dates:

- Mine clearance 13-15 September 1999
- Victim assistance 15-17 September 1999
socio-economic
integration and mine
awareness
- Stockpile destruction 9-10 December 1999

- Technologies for mine action 13-14 December 1999
- General status and operation of the Convention 10-11 January 2000

26. At its .. plenary meeting, the Meeting agreed that the Second Meeting of the States Parties would be held on 11-15 September 2000 in Geneva.

27. At its .. plenary meeting, the Meeting adopted the Maputo Declaration, which is contained in part II of this report.

F. Documentation

28. A list of documents of the First Meeting is contained in annex I to this report.

G. Conclusion of the First Meeting

29. At its ... final plenary meeting on 7 May 1999, the Meeting adopted its Final Report as contained in document APLC/MSP.1/1999/L.7.

PART II

MAPUTO DECLARATION
