

# 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

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Consideration of the report of the  
CCW Sponsorship Programme

## Report of the CCW Sponsorship Programme

Submitted by the Steering Committee of the Sponsorship Programme

### I. Introduction

1. The CCW Sponsorship Programme was established by a decision of the High Contracting Parties at the Third Review Conference.<sup>1</sup> The goals of the Sponsorship Programme are to strengthen the implementation of and respect for the Convention and its Protocols, and to promote its universalization. The Programme also aims to enhance cooperation, exchange of information and consultations among the High Contracting Parties.

2. In the final report of the 2018 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, the Meeting reiterated “its appreciation for the report of the CCW Sponsorship Programme and the work of its Steering Committee”.<sup>2</sup> The Meeting recognized the importance of the Sponsorship Programme for promoting universalization and strengthening the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. The Meeting called upon those States in a position to do so to contribute to the Sponsorship Programme.

3. This report covers the work of the Sponsorship Programme from 1 October 2018 to 15 September 2019. Ms. Ines Šprem Scigliano from Croatia has served as Coordinator of the Steering Committee since August 2018. The programme is supported by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), and all logistical and administrative issues are managed by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD).

### II. Activities of the CCW Sponsorship Programme

4. Since 1 October 2018, the Sponsorship Programme financed the attendance of one representative from each of the following States:

(a) to attend the Twelfth Conference of High Contracting Parties to Protocol V (19 November 2018): Guatemala, Montenegro and Togo;

<sup>1</sup> Decision 5 of the final document, CCW/CONF.III/11 and Annex IV, 7–17 November 2006.

<sup>2</sup> Paragraph 30 of the final document, CCW/MSP/2018/11, 28 December 2018.



(b) to attend the Twentieth Conference of High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II (20 November 2018): Guatemala, Montenegro and Togo;

(c) to attend the 2018 Meeting of High Contracting Parties to the Convention (21–23 November 2018): Guatemala, Montenegro and Togo;

(d) to attend the first session in 2019 of the Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (25–29 March 2019): South Africa;

(e) to attend the Amended Protocol II Group of Experts (22 August 2019) and the Protocol V Meeting of Experts (23 August 2019): Namibia;

(f) to attend the Protocol V Meeting of Experts (23 August 2019): Burkina Faso.

5. Since 1 October 2018, the Sponsorship Programme financed the attendance of the following experts, upon recommendation by the respective officeholders:

(a) to attend the Amended Protocol II Group of Experts (22 August 2019): four experts from Afghanistan, Bosnia, the United Kingdom (as individual consultant) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);

(b) to attend the Protocol V Meeting of Experts (23 August 2019): two experts from Afghanistan and Bosnia.

6. The attendance of sponsored representatives of States at the meetings mentioned above was a good opportunity to brief and discuss with them the background to, reasons for joining the CCW and its Protocols, and issues concerning implementation. During these meetings, the Sponsorship Programme Coordinator briefed sponsored delegates regarding the work and scope of the Sponsorship Programme and requested them to share information on the prospects of their State joining the CCW or to highlight any challenges concerning implementation.

### **III. Work of the Steering Committee**

7. In accordance with the Committee's decision taken in February 2018 to adopt a yearly planning cycle and selection of sponsored States, a consolidated call for voluntary applications for sponsorship for all CCW meetings to take place in 2019 was circulated in January 2019. The Steering Committee of the Sponsorship Programme met on 13 February 2019 to review the financial situation of the Programme and to establish the criteria for the selection of States for sponsorship. The decision on which States to sponsor was reached both during the 13 February 2019 meeting and through a silence procedure in April 2019. The Coordinator continued their fundraising activities by approaching States Parties individually.

### **IV. Financing of the CCW Sponsorship Programme**

8. During the reporting period, the Sponsorship Programme benefitted from the financial contributions of the following States: Australia, China, Croatia, Estonia Finland and Turkey. The financial accounts for the Sponsorship Programme as of 15 September 2019 are attached to this report as an annex.

9. Voluntary contribution to the Sponsorship Programme was encouraged both through personalized letters and an appeal to all High Contracting Parties from the Coordinator.

## Annex

Table 1  
Accounts 2018 (CHF)

	<i>Expenditures</i>					<i>Carry-over</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Remaining balance</i>
<i>2018</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Total</i>			
Travel costs	5 488	8 252	727	1 017	15 484			
Accommodation	3 759	4 950	4 081	3 497	16 287			
Per diem	1 540	1 760	1 320	1 155	5 775			
Bank charges	46	30	20	20	116			
Contributions								
Australia							16 996	
China							9 716	
Croatia							1 000	
Estonia							5 708	
Finland							11 037	
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 833</b>	<b>14 992</b>	<b>6 148</b>	<b>5 689</b>	<b>37 662</b>	<b>88 467</b>	<b>44 457</b>	
<b>Remaining balance 2018</b>								<b>95 262</b>

Table 2  
Accounts 2019 as of 15 September 2019 (CHF)

	<i>Expenditures</i>			<i>Carry-over</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Remaining balance</i>
<i>2019</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Total</i>			
Travel costs		7 192	7 192			
Accommodation	1 034	2 322	3 356			
Per diem	385	1 045	1 430			
Bank charges	26	20	46			
Contributions						
China					9 838	
Turkey					974	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 445</b>	<b>10 579</b>	<b>12 024</b>	<b>95 262</b>	<b>10 812</b>	
<b>Remaining balance 2019</b>						<b>94 050</b>