

16/11/11 AM

Presentation of Mr. Bantan Nugroho, Head of the CCW ISU

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Distinguished delegates,

I would like to introduce the Report of the Implementation Support Unit as contained in document CCW/CONF.IV/8 dated 1st of November 2011.

As many of you will know, the CCW Implementation Support Unit was established by a decision taken by the Meeting of High Contracting Parties in 2009. In accordance with that decision a selection process for its staff as required by the relevant UN recruitment procedures went underway. After the appointment of its Head and one staff member, the Unit became fully operational in the beginning of May this year.

The tasks of the ISU are primarily to:

- Provide Secretariat services for all CCW meetings;
- Facilitate communications among States Parties and international organizations;
- Serve as focal point for submission of information by and to the States Parties;
- Support States with the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols;
- Assist the Secretary-General of the United Nations to discharge his responsibilities pursuant to the Convention and its Protocols; and
- Fulfil all other tasks as mandated by the States Parties to the Convention and its Protocols.

The ISU was primarily the substantive secretariat for the all the CCW meetings. A major part of the Unit's work has been assisting the work of the President of the Fourth Review Conference by organizing his bilateral consultations, both in Geneva and in New York and the overall procedural, technical and substantive preparation of the Review Conference. On top of that due to the intensive negotiations on Cluster Munitions within the Group of Governmental Experts, much of the Unit's time has been spent on the supporting the CCW meetings.

In its task to facilitate communications among the States parties and international organizations, the ISU served as focal point for the submission of information by and to the High Contracting Parties that are related to the Convention and its Protocols. The CCW website and the e-mail network are tools for the dissemination of information on meetings and activities related to the CCW. Aside from posting on the website, new information and other developments in these areas were also communicated to the States through the CCW e-mail network.

Serious effort was devoted to establishing the web page on Victim Assistance, as mandated by the Fourth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, in consultation with Austria in its capacity as Coordinator on Victim Assistance under Protocol V.

The process of establishing the Web-based Information System for Protocol V (WISP.V) also consumed much of the Unit's attention. The project is now under the responsibility of the ISU and we will work together with delegations in implementing the system. Apart from that, the ISU was also active in following up with States parties on national reporting under Protocol V, Amended Protocol II and on Compliance.

On the universalization of the Convention, part of the mechanism for enhancing universality is the establishment of the Sponsorship Programme. The ISU was involved in organizing the meetings of the Sponsorship Programme's Steering Committee, under the guidance of its Coordinator. It also issued the letters of invitation addressed to potential beneficiaries that are decided by the Steering Committee, followed up and monitored the process in coordination with the GICHD, which is responsible for running the day-to-day operation of the Programme. Furthermore, in efforts to promote understanding and awareness of the Convention and its Protocols, the ISU participated in various briefing sessions that are held at the United Nations.

The ISU circulated a survey to States Parties requesting feedback on the performance of the Unit and how best to communicate with States Parties. I would like to express my gratitude to all those that have submitted responses to the survey. The responses received so far indicated that the ISU should improve its performance in various areas as reflected in Paragraph 14 of the Report. The ISU appreciates very much these constructive proposals from delegations and shall make every effort to meet the suggestions conveyed.

In conclusion, as it has been an intensive period with eight meetings this year, where much attention was devoted to the negotiations on cluster munitions and the preparation for the Review Conference, the ISU was significantly focused on servicing meetings throughout this period.

But looking ahead, the ISU shall strive to operate in the most efficient way and to perform the tasks set out in its mandate. The Unit will be focusing on enhancing outreach, promoting universalization, by organizing regional seminars and workshop, if resources permit.

We are a small team, but we have big ambitions to further assist the States parties in promoting the work of the Convention and its Protocols.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and the door of the CCW ISU is always open to those that need assistance and information on the latest issues.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.