THIRD REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE STATES 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 CCW/CONF.III/7/Add.6 CCW/GGE/XV/6/Add.6 13 October 2006

Original: ENGLISH

Geneva, 7-17 November 2006 Item 10 of the provisional agenda Submission of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts

PROCEDURAL REPORT

GROUP OF GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS OF THE STATES 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

Fifteenth Session Geneva, 28 August – 6 September 2006

Addendum

Draft Declaration on the occasion of entry into force of CCW Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V)

GE.06-64547

CCW/CONF.III/7/Add.6 CCW/GGE/XV/6/Add.6 Page 2

DRAFT DECLARATION ON THE OCCASION OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF CCW PROTOCOL ON EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR (PROTOCOL V)

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 (CCW),

Recalling the general principle of the protection of the civilian population against the effects of hostilities,

Deeply concerned at the fact that after the end of hostilities, people continue to be killed or injured by unexploded and abandoned explosive ordnance, and that such explosive remnants of war can remain for decades a cause of humanitarian suffering, a daily threat to civilians and military alike, an obstacle to the return of refugees and other displaced persons, a serious impediment to humanitarian assistance, peace-keeping, post-conflict reconstruction and economic development, as well as to the restoration of normal social conditions,

Recalling that the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V) was negotiated by the CCW Group of Governmental Experts in 2003 and was adopted by consensus on 28 November 2003 at the Meeting of the States parties to the CCW held in Geneva on 27 and 28 November 2003,

Recognizing that Protocol V provides for post-conflict remedial measures of a generic nature in order to minimize the risks and the effects of explosive remnants of war and for encouraging States Parties to take such post-conflict remedial measures and generic preventive measures aimed at minimizing the occurrence of explosive remnants of war,

Emphasizing the importance that they attach to the universalization of Protocol V, and *expressing* their determination to take all appropriate measures so that Protocol V attains universal adherence,

Welcome the entry into force of Protocol V on 12 November 2006 and the fact that, [...] States have notified the Depositary of their consent to be bound by Protocol V by that date,

Reaffirm their conviction that Protocol V aims to significantly reduce the suffering and contribute to the protection of civilian population and humanitarian personnel from the effects of explosive remnants of war,

Reiterate their determination to address the humanitarian, developmental and environmental impact of explosive remnants of war, including existing explosive remnants of war, and *welcome* the efforts already undertaken in this regard,

CCW/CONF.III/7/Add.6 CCW/GGE/XV/6/Add.6 Page 3

Emphasize their determination to reinforce international cooperation and assistance on the issues related to the implementation of Protocol V, and in particular in clearance, removal or destruction of explosive remnants of war, transmission of information, protection of humanitarian missions and organizations, risk education, victims assistance, and to dedicate greater efforts and resources, as appropriate, towards that end,

Encourage High Contracting Parties to Protocol V in accordance with Article 10 of the Protocol to commence preparations for a Conference,

Urge all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Protocol, as soon as possible.