

**The United Nations Regional Seminar on Promoting the Universality of the
Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) and its annexed Protocols
in Central Asia**

Almaty, Kazakhstan, 24-25 September 2008

Astana International Hotel

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PROGRAMME

DAY ONE

ROOM: 'ULUTAU'

09:00 Registration

09:30 Welcome and opening statements (Chair: UN)

- High Level Representative of the host country to open the seminar
- Representative of the European Council
- Representative of the EU Presidency

10:00 SESSION I: An overview of the CCW and its Protocols

- An overview of the Convention and its protocols. Humanitarian objectives, military perspective, structure, evolution, regional status (presentation: UNODA)
- Discussion

11:15 Coffee Break: **ROOM: LOBBY 'ULUTAU'**

11:30 SESSION II: An overview of the CCW and its Protocols (cont.)

- IHL and the CCW. Overview of major IHL rules such as the rules of distinction, proportionality in attack, prohibition of indiscriminate attacks, prohibition of the use of weapons that cause unnecessary suffering or superfluous injury (presentation: ICRC)
- Discussion

12:45 Lunch **RESTAURANT 'SULU'**

14.30 SESSION III: Implementing the Convention and its protocols. CCW and mine action

- Implementing Protocol V: overview, challenges, plans, prospects (presentations: ICRC and UNODA)
- Update from participating States on their mine/ERW situation and on problems, plans, progress and priorities for assistance in dealing with the problems caused by mines and ERW
- Discussion

16:00 Coffee Break **ROOM: LOBBY 'ULUTAU'**

16.15 SESSION IV: Implementing the Convention and its protocols. CCW and mine action (cont.)

- Implementing Amended Protocol II: overview, challenges, plans, prospects (presentations: UNMAS)
- CCW and Mine Action (presentations: UNMAS)
- Updates from participating States on their mine/ERW situation and on mine action activities and/or programmes
- Discussion

17:45 Adjourn

18:30 Reception RESTAURANT 'SULU'

DAY TWO

ROOM: 'ULUTAU'

09:30 SESSION V: Implementing the Convention and its protocols

- Compliance with the CCW and its Protocols: legal framework, goals, reporting, challenges (presentation: UNODA)
- An overview of key elements of national implementation (dissemination, training, legislation and regulations, reviewing the legality of new weapons) (presentation: ICRC)
- Updates from participating States parties on their accession to the CCW and its protocol, as well as on problems, plans, progress and priorities for assistance in preparing national legislation, structures and practices
- Discussion

11:00 Coffee Break ROOM: LOBBY 'ULUTAU'

11:15 Session VI: An overview of current CCW agenda

- Cluster munitions (presentation: UNIDIR)
- Compliance
- MOTAPM (presentation: UNODA)
- Discussion

12:45 Lunch RESTAURANT 'SULU'

14.30 Session VII: Towards universal adherence of the CCW

- The CCW Plan of Action and Sponsorship programme (presentation: UNODA)
- Accession to the CCW and its protocols: legal framework, procedure, ratification kit (presentation: ICRC)
- Updates from the States not parties on steps they are taking towards ratification of / accession to the Convention or problems in acceding to the Convention and its protocols.
- Input from relevant organizations on the assistance that they can provide.
- The benefits of joining CCW and its protocols (presentation: UNIDIR)
- Discussion

16.00 Coffee Break ROOM: LOBBY 'ULUTAU'

16.30 Session VIII: Other related issues

- CCW and other relevant treaties

17.00 Session IX: Wrap-up (executive summary) and closing remarks (Chair: UNODA)

17.30 Closure of the Seminar
