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GROUP OF GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS TO
PREPARE THE 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

Fourth session
Geneva, 9-20 January 1995

Proposal submitted by the delegations of Australia, Canada, France,
Germany, New Zealand, Norway, the United States

Article 10

Verification Commission

1. Each State party shall be entitled to ask the Depositary to convene a Verification Commission, within a period of one week, to conduct an inquiry in order to clarify and resolve any questions relating to possible non-compliance with the provisions of this Protocol concerning the use of mines, booby-traps and other devices. The request for an inquiry shall be accompanied by relevant information and evidence confirming its validity.

2. (a) The Verification Commission, which shall meet in New York, shall be open to the participation of all States parties. Subject to the provisions of both paragraph 3 of this article and paragraph 1 of Article 11, the Verification Commission shall take its decisions by consensus if possible, but otherwise by a majority of members present and voting.

(b) The costs of the Verification Commission's activity shall be covered by the States parties in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessments, adjusted to allow for differences between the number of States Members of the United Nations and the number of States parties.

3. (a) An inquiry shall be held unless the Verification Commission decides, not later than 48 hours after it has been convened, with a two thirds majority of its members present and voting that the information and evidence produced does not justify an inquiry.

(b) For the purposes of the inquiry the Verification Commission shall seek useful assistance and relevant information from States parties and international organizations concerned and from any other appropriate sources.