

**ACCRA REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE UNIVERSALIZATION
OF THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS**

MAY 28 – 30, 2012

LA PALM ROYAL BEACH HOTEL

ACCRA, GHANA

PROGRAMME

PROVISIONAL

SUNDAY MAY 27, 2012

15:00 – 19:00 Registration

MONDAY MAY 28, 2012

08:30 – 09:15 Registration
Arrival of Invited Guests
Music and Dance Welcome:
Ghana Dance Ensemble (Institute of African Studies, University
of Ghana, Legon)

OFFICIAL OPENING SESSION

09:20 All seated

09:25 Ghana National Anthem:
Alabaster Box (Acapella Group)

Acknowledgement of Key Invited Guests, Guest of Honour, and
Introduction of Chairperson:

Master of Ceremony / Conference Facilitator

Chairperson's Opening Remarks:

Honourable Lt. Gen. Joseph Henry Smith (ret'd), Minister for
Defence of the Republic of Ghana

Welcome Statement:

Honourable William Kwasi Aboah, Minister for the Interior of the
Republic of Ghana

Statement:

His Excellency Tom Tyrihjell, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway to the Republic of Ghana

Performance interlude:

Ghana Dance Ensemble

Statement:

His Excellency Kamil Kamaluddeen, UNDP Country Director, Ghana

Statement:

Ms. Afi Yakubu, Executive Director, Foundation for Security and Development in Africa (FOSDA)

Drum and Seprewa Herald:

Ghana Dance Ensemble

Official Opening Statement:

His Excellency Dr. John Dramani Mahama, Vice President of the Republic of Ghana

Chairperson's Closing Remarks:

Honourable Lt. Gen. Joseph Henry Smith (retd), Minister for Defence of the Republic of Ghana

Gratitude:

Mr. Jones B. Applerh, Executive Secretary, Ghana National Commission on Small Arms and Light Weapons (GNACSA)

Ghana National Anthem:

Alabaster Box (Acapella Group)

11:00 – 11:30

Press Briefing
Coffee Break

11:30 - 13:00

Session I - Overview and current status of the CCM

Chair:

- **Ghana**

Intro by **ICRC**

- Screening of ICRC movie "The Convention on Cluster Munitions: Time to Act".

Status of the CCM (**Lebanon**)

- *focus on the preventative nature of the treaty*
- *participation in the 3MSP*

Purpose of the Accra meeting (**Zambia**)

- *recall the role of African States in Oslo Process/negotiations*
- *need for more States to join/Africa's role in the future*

13:00 - 14:30 **Lunch break**

14:30 – 15:45 **Session II - Universalization of the CCM**

Chair:

- Ghana

At the outset, the Chair will make a brief introduction containing an update on the situation of African States Parties thus far, and will outline potential areas for increased activities to promote universalization in the Sub-Saharan region.

During this session States Parties, States not party, international organisations and civil society are invited to make statements on their plans, progress and views with regards to universalization.

Presentation:

- Importance of CCM universalization (**ICBL-CMC**)

In Africa the main issue seems to be competing priorities/lack of awareness and so discussions could be focused on how to make accession and ratification a priority and addressing 'inertia' experienced by sigs to ratify and in non sigs to accede

Updates:

- from states that have ratified/acceded since the 2MSP
- from non-signatories on accession
- from signatories on ratification
- Other statements from the floor

15:45 – 16:15 **Coffee Break**

16:15 - 17:30 **Session III - National Implementation Measures**

Chair:

- Lebanon

During this session, States Parties are strongly encouraged to arrive prepared with a statement on their experiences with national legislation and other measures in place to give effect to the full range of prohibitions and positive obligations in the Convention.

All other delegations with an interest on national implementation measures are also invited to present views here.

Presentations:

- CCM obligations that require specific national measures and the key elements of national legislation (**ICRC**).
 - To include a discussion of the New Zealand and ICRC Working Paper presented at the 2MSP
- Interpretive Issues (**ICBL-CMC**)

- Presentation by ICBL-CMC on “Interpretation of Key Provisions: joint military operations, transit, investment, retention and foreign stockpiling”
- Updates from States that are in the process of drafting/reviewing national legislation
- Comments and questions

Tuesday 29 May 2012

09:00 - 10:00 Session IV - International cooperation and assistance

Chair:

- **South Africa**

The session will begin with presentations by a number of States on their experiences with regard to Cooperation and Assistance. States Parties are encouraged to provide an update on identifying gaps, needs and priorities for cooperation and assistance.

States Parties and signatories seeking assistance are also encouraged to provide an update on the measures they are taking to facilitate the provision of international assistance, mobilize national resources and to promote cooperation between States and actors giving and receiving assistance.

Statements:

- Sharing of states’ experiences regarding South-South and Triangular Cooperation
- Comments and questions

Other delegations are invited to provide views on the implementation of Article 6.

10:00 - 12:30 Session V - Parallel workshop sessions: Considerations to joining and promoting the Convention on Cluster Munitions

[During Workshops A and B, conference splits into Francophone and Anglophone sessions, followed by report back from each small group]

Rapporteur (fr): **Togo**

Rapporteur (en): TBC

Coordinator (fr): **ICRC**

Coordinator (en): **ICBL-CMC**

10:00 – 11:15 Workshop A: Challenges to CCM ratification/accession in Africa

The Coordinators will open with a few words on how the session will be structured and what the workshop is aiming to achieve.

Within each language group, open discussions will be led according to States' obstacles to joining the CCM. Each State will be expected to speak on their views and concerns, before opening up the dialogue to share thoughts on how these elements could be best addressed. Expertise and advisory support will be provided by the ICBL-CMC and ICRC

11:15 – 12:30 Workshop B: CCM Universalization Strategy for Africa

The Coordinators will open with some concluding remarks from the previous Workshop A, which should serve as the basis for discussions in Workshop B. The concerns raised by Signatories and States not party will thus highlight essential factors to take into account when establishing a CCM Universalization Strategy for States in the Sub-Saharan region.

Throughout the remainder of the session, States will discuss matters in smaller groups, and will be given the opportunity to establish potential areas of focus and common strategies to promote universalization on the regional and sub-regional levels. Possible points for discussion should include: priority areas/States for universalization efforts, key opportunities/occasions to push the CCM, a desired "timeline" for CCM universalization, and how States Parties can assist or facilitate efforts to join the CCM.

12:30 – 14:30 Lunch break

A first draft or "template" for the Accra Universalization Action Plan will have been drafted prior to the conference. During the lunch break, the rapporteurs will finalise this template, based on the outcomes of the previous workshops. This is then put forward to States Parties for their consideration and input into Session V during the afternoon.

14:30 - 15:30 Session V - Development of the Accra Universalisation Action Plan: challenges and remedies to CCM Universalization in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Coordinators/rapporteurs facilitate the drafting by States Parties of an Action Plan for African States to promote universalization of the CCM, based on points raised and conclusions drawn during the previous Workshops A and B.

15:30 - 16:15 Session VI – Presentation of the Accra Universalisation Action Plan: challenges and remedies to CCM Universalization in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Brief report back by rapporteurs followed by a point-by-point presentation of the Accra Action Plan

Chair:

- Zambia

16:15 – 17:00 Chair's summary and closing remarks

19:30 - 21:00 Reception hosted by Ghana

Wednesday 30 May (States Parties and signatories)

09:00 – 10:00 Preparations for the 3MSP

- Draft decisions and recommendations (**Lebanon**)

10:00 - 11:15 Session I - Stockpile destruction

Coordinator:

- **ICBL-CMC**

The Coordinator will begin the session with a brief presentation on the destruction of stockpiles.

In this session States Parties with cluster munition stockpiles should be prepared to present brief updates on their destruction programmes.

For any signatory States present, the meeting provides an opportunity to demonstrate their continued commitment to join the Convention as soon as possible and to contribute to the overall implementation of Article 3.

An open discussion on challenges is strongly encouraged and clarifications of needs for assistance and cooperation are also very welcome.

- Updates from States that have completed or are undergoing stockpile destruction
- Comments and questions

11:15 - 12:30 Session II - Victim Assistance

Chair:

- **Uganda**

All States Parties are strongly encouraged to provide a progress update on national implementation of the victim assistance related provisions of the Convention

As discussed at the Intersessional Meeting in April 2012, States are encouraged to speak of their experiences, including the integration of CCM victim assistance provisions in existing coordination mechanisms (such as those created under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities).

Speakers and updates:

- Chair's intro: VA obligations under the CCM
- Extending existing VA/disability plans to incorporate VA obligations under the CCM
- Other statements and questions

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

14:00 - 15:15 Session III – Clearance

Chair:

- **ICBL-CMC**

Affected States are particularly encouraged to speak on the implementation or development of national clearance strategies, and challenges experienced.

In a number of African States, cluster munition contamination has been observed on a residual level. Interventions outlining specific approaches to this type of problem are welcomed, for example, by these States where clearance obligations can be achieved through existing mechanisms dealing with other types of contamination.

- Updates from States that have completed or are undergoing clearance
- Other possible areas for discussion are:
 - the framework for hazardous area reduction and release of contaminated land,
 - how to best facilitate international cooperation and assistance on clearance issues,
- Comments and questions

15:15 – 16:30 Session IV – Reporting and other obligations under the CCM

Chair:

- **ICRC**

During this session, delegations may wish to give views on the reporting format, transparency reporting guidance, the provision of initial and annual reporting, and the importance of transparency reporting.

Requests for advice and guidance on fulfilling reporting obligations are also greatly welcomed.

Presentations and statements:

- Completing Transparency Reporting Forms (**UNDP**)
- Demonstration of the Cluster Munitions Identification Tool (**UNDP**)
- Comments and questions

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**LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE - GHANA
MEMBERS**

	NAME	INSTITUTION	POSITION
1	ALHAJI SALIFU OSMAN	MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR	CHAIRMAN
2	MR. JONES BORTEYE APPLERH	GHANA NATIONAL COMMISSION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS	CO-CHAIRMAN
3	MR. LEONARD BORTEY TETTEY	GHANA NATIONAL COMMISSION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS	SECRETARY / LIAISON
4	MR. GYEBI ASANTE	GHANA NATIONAL COMMISSION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS	EVENT COORDINATION
5	MR. JOHNSON ASANTE- TWUM	GHANA NATIONAL COMMISSION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS	DIRECTOR, CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT
6	MR. EBENEZER SAM	MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR	LIAISON, MINISTRIES / LOC
7	ALHAJI SAEED M. S. LARTEY	NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL	ACCREDITATION/LIAISON NSCS
8	MR. VICTOR N. ADAMAH	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION	INVITATIONS / LIAISON MFA
9	COL. M.M. ARYEE	GHANA ARMED FORCES	EMERGENCY HEALTH STATION
10	MR. CHARLES BEDIAKO	GHANA IMMIGRATION SERVICE	VISAS
11	MR. SEIDU IDDRISU	CUSTOMS EXCISE AND PREVENTIVE SERVICE	PROTOCOL/CUSTOMS
12	C/SUPT/MR. FRANCIS ABOAGYE NYARKO	GHANA POLICE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS	SECURITY
13	MRS. THEODORA W. ANTI	FOUNDATION FOR SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA	CSO

14	MS. VIVIAN BRUCE TETTEH	UNDP	
15	MRS. KATE ODZAWO	UNDP	

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT – GHANA

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CONFERENCE EVENT MANAGEMENT

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GHANA NATIONAL COMMISSION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS (GNACSA)

BACKGROUND

The Ghana National Commission on Small Arms [GNACSA] is a Commission established by an Act of Parliament [Act 736 of 2007] to fulfil the requirements of the ECOWAS Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light weapons, now the ECOWAS convention on Small Arms and Light weapons, their Ammunition and other Related Materials . It was also expected to work towards the effective implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action (UNPoA) to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects as well as the ECOWAS Small Arms Control Programme [ECOSAP]. Significantly, however, the Commission, which started as a Task Force in 1998, was created because Ghana does believe in preventive action, vigilance and maintaining her integrity as a peaceful country.

The birth of the Commission was made possible, to a large extent, by the United Nations Development Programme [UNDP], the Ministry of the Interior and related civil society organizations. The Department for International Development [DFID], United Nations Development Programme [UNDP] and the Government of Ghana have continuously provided financial and logistic support to the Commission in its programmes and activities since its birth.

THE GOVERNING BODY

The Commission has a governing body whose chairperson and members are appointed by the President of the Republic of Ghana in consultation with the Council of State. The members of the Commission are representatives of the following governmental and civil society organizations:

- Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and NEPAD
- Ministry of The Interior
- Attorney-General's Department
- National Security
- The Security Agencies
- Civil Society Organizations of relevance

Mr. Jones B. Applerh is the Executive Secretary of the Commission.