Convention on Cluster Munitions

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Review of the status and operation of the Convention
and other matters important for achieving the aims of the Convention

Convention on Cluster Munitions Ninth Meeting of States Parties Progress Report — monitoring progress in implementing the Dubrovnik Action Plan

Submitted by the President of the Ninth Meeting of States Parties

I. Introduction

- 1. This report presents an aggregate analysis of trends and figures in the implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) as operationalized in the Dubrovnik Action Plan (DAP) which guides the work of the CCM from the First Review Conference (1RC) in 2015 to the Second Review Conference scheduled for 2020. This report specifically focuses on the implementation progress made between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019.
- 2. The report has been structured to provide a document that is as practical and useful as possible on the global application of the CCM. It is further intended to guide discussions at the Ninth Meeting of States Parties (9MSP) by monitoring progress and identifying key issues and/or challenges to be addressed. The key elements under each thematic area have been summarized to provide an overall status of implementation of the Convention at a glance. It does not in any way replace the requirement for formal reporting nor does it seek to provide a complete overview of all the progress made in implementing the 32 Action Points contained in the Dubrovnik Action Plan. It must be noted that the information contained in this report is based on publicly available information, including from official statements and States Parties' initial and annual transparency reports due annually on 30 April of each year.

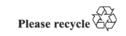
II. Report Summary

A. Universalization

- (a) Three Signatory States ratified the Convention bringing total number of States Parties to 106;
 - (b) Fourteen Signatory States still remain to ratify the Convention;
- (c) Twenty-four states still to join to reach the DAP objective of 130 States Parties by 2020;
- (d) Steady increase recorded in support of the Convention since the first CCM UNGA resolution was adopted in December 2015.

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B. Stockpile Destruction and Retention

- (a) Four States Parties completed destruction of stockpiles ahead of treaty deadlines leaving only five still with Article 3 obligations;
- (b) Since entry into force of the CCM, 35 out of 40 States Parties have now completed destruction of their stockpiles;
- (c) Three States Parties have used the Article 3 Declaration of Compliance template adopted at the 8MSP;
- (d) One State Party submitted an extension request to meet its 2019 Article 3 obligations while one State Party notified that it would be seeking an extension to its March 2021 deadline;
- (e) Five States Parties reported on the use of retained cluster munitions through training exercises conducted leading to a decrease in overall retention numbers.

C. Clearance and Risk Reduction Education

- (a) Eight of 10 States Parties with Article 4 obligations provided updated information concerning the location, scope and extent of cluster munition contamination and/or on the status and progress of programmes for the clearance for cluster munitions remnants in areas under their jurisdiction or control;
- (b) Two States Parties with Article 4 obligations reported that with adequate financial support they would be able to fulfil their Article 4 obligations before their 2020 and 2022 deadlines respectively;
- (c) Two States Parties with clearance deadlines in 2020 submitted extension requests to be considered at the 9MSP;
- (d) Three States Parties reported that they were not on track to fulfil their Article 4 obligations within their respective stipulated deadlines;
- (e) One State Party reported on newly contaminated areas while two States Parties reported on the discovery of previously unknown contamination.

D. Victim Assistance

- (a) Nine of 11 States Parties with Article 5 obligations reported on the designation or existence of a national focal point;
- (b) Seven of 11 States Parties with Article 5 obligations provided information on national laws or national action plans relating to victims and/or persons with disabilities;
 - (c) Three States Parties reported on new cluster munition victims;
- (d) Six States Parties reported to have integrated their victim assistance (VA) efforts into the broader disability sector;
- Seven States Parties reported having involved victims and/or people with disabilities in decision making processes;
- (f) Seven States Parties requested international assistance and cooperation specifically for victim assistance.

E. International Cooperation and Assistance

- (a) Nine States Parties requested specific assistance in their 2018 annual transparency report;
- (b) One State Party requested support to define the real scope of contamination by cluster munition remnants;

- (c) Twenty-two States Parties reported to have provided assistance to States with obligations;
- (d) Twelve States Parties reported to have received assistance from other States Parties and/or stakeholder organisations;
- (e) Thirteen States Parties with obligations under the Convention reported having allocated national resources to fulfil these obligations, an increase from nine in 2017;
 - (f) One Country Coalition event was held in Geneva.

F. Transparency Measures

- (a) Ninety-one initial transparency reports due from 103 States Parties had been submitted
- (b) One new State Party submitted its initial transparency report in time and one submitted a long overdue initial report;
 - (c) Twelve States Parties still had overdue initial transparency reports
- (d) Annual report submission rate of 63 per cent is a reduction from rate recorded in 2017 of 70 per cent during the same reporting period.

G. National Implementation Measures

- (a) One State Party in its initial transparency report reported that an analysis of existing law was taking place to determine how it would implement the CCM domestically;
- (b) Out of the 56 States Parties that have submitted their 2018 annual report, 14 States Parties reported updates on national implementation;
- (c) Six States Parties provided supplementary/additional information on national legislation to implement the CCM;
- (d) One State Party reported having adopted specific law to implement the CCM as an annex to its existing law and that this specific law also prohibits investment in cluster munitions.

III. CCM 9MSP Progress Report for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

A. Universalization

Table 1

2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik Action Plan. Actions 1.1 to 1.3	During reporting period
An increased number of States Parties to the Convention (130 at		Three new States Parties (all by ratification)
least) A decreased number of reported alleged and confirmed instances of use		14 Signatory States still to ratify
		24 States needed to reach the objective of 130 States Parties by 2020
		Slight increase in rate of universalization

2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik Action Plan. Actions 1.1 to 1.3	During reporting period
	Promote the universalization	Numerous bilateral meetings held with representatives of Signatory States and States not Party
		One informal meeting for Signatory States and States not Party on adherence to the CCM
	Reinforce the norms being established by the Convention	Continued increase in support of UNGA Resolution on implementation of the CCM

- (a) How can stakeholders of the Convention make use of identified internal and external factors to motivate States to join?
- (b) What level of certainty regarding available evidence on use of cluster munitions would States require in order to speak out against all use, production and/or transfer of cluster munitions?
- (c) How can regional and international cooperation and assistance be used and promoted to increase the membership of the CCM?

2. Progress report on universalization: monitoring progress in the implementation of the Dubrovnik Action Plan

- 3. During the period under review, the rate of universalization slightly improved with the addition of three new States Parties. All three were signatory States that joined by ratification: Namibia, the Gambia and the Philippines. In accordance with Article 17 (2), the Convention entered into force for Namibia on 1 February 2019; for the Gambia on 1 June 2019; and for the Philippines will enter into force on 1 July 2019. As of 30 June 2019, a total of 120 States had joined the CCM by signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention. Of these, 106 are States Parties whilst 14 are Signatory States. Action 1.1 of the Dubrovnik Action Plan set as an objective 130 States Parties by the Second Review Conference in 2020. This requires that another 24 States join the CCM by that date.
- 4. Since entry into force of the Convention, 14 Signatory States still have to ratify it: Angola, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cyprus, Djibouti, Haiti, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Sao Tomé and Principe, Tanzania and Uganda.
- 5. In December 2018, 144 Member States of the United Nations voted in favour of United Nations General Assembly Resolution 73/54 "*Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions*", even though 73 Member States of the United Nations are neither Signatories nor Parties to the Convention. This shows a steady increase of Yes votes annually since the first United Nations General Assembly resolution on the Convention on Cluster Munitions was first adopted in December 2015.
- 6. The CCM Universalization coordinators held bilateral meetings with Permanent Missions in Geneva of signatory States and States not Party and engaged with those States during other disarmament meetings.
- 7. Additionally, the Coordinators hosted an informal meeting on 6 February 2019 with signatory States and States not Party in the margins of the 22nd International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and United Nations Advisers (NDM-UN22) held in Geneva. The

meeting provided a platform for signatory States and States not Party to exchange views and experiences with regards to joining the CCM.

- 8. The 9MSP President also hosted a lunchtime side event at the UN Headquarters in New York on the universalization of the CCM with a focus on the Asia/Pacific region. This side event took place on Friday, 12 October 2018, in the margins of the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly First Committee and gathered 12 States not Party and 15 States Parties to the Convention from the Asia/Pacific region as well as from other regions. Representatives from UNODA, the Cluster Munition Coalition and other civil society organizations also attended the meeting.
- 9. The President also co-hosted and participated in the the Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on Universalization of the CCM. The workshop, held in Manila, the Philippines, from 18 to 19 June 2019 brought together 8 States not Party from the region:

B. Stockpile Destruction and Retention

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Table 2		
2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik Action Plan Actions 2.1 to 2.5	During reporting period
An increased number of States Parties that finished stockpile destruction	Develop a resourced plan	Three States Parties provided information on progress made in stockpile destruction
Increased levels of reporting on matters pertaining to Article 3 implementation, including information on the amount and planned use of sub-munitions retained Increased exchange of information of good and cost-effective stockpile destruction practices including on safety, environmental impact and efficiency		Two States Parties reported a destruction plan in place or being developed
		Two States Parties to apply standards related to safety and environment
		Two States Parties reported allocation of national resources to stockpile destruction
	Increase exchanges of promising practices	One State Party reported on technical assistance received from an international clearance organization
		One State Party to use its own capacities and resources to destroy stocks
	Apply an appropriate approach to retention	13 States Parties retained cluster munitions as provided for in the CCM
		Ten States Parties out of 13 that had previously declared retaining CM provided updates on the use of retained submunitions

2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik Action Plan Actions 2.1 to 2.5	During reporting period
		Five States Parties reported on the use of retained cluster munitions through trainings
		One State Party declared that it had transported part of its retained submunitions to another State Party for destruction in May 2019
	Announce declaration of compliance on stockpile destruction	Four States Parties reported completion of stockpile destruction ahead of their stipulated treaty deadline
		Three States Parties used the Article 3 Declaration of Compliance template adopted at the 8MSP
		There remain only five States Parties with obligations under Article 3
		One State Party submitted an extension request
		One State Party submitted a notification informing that it would be seeking an extension of its initial 2019 deadline
	Act upon unexpected developments	Multiple outreach done, and one letter sent to a State Party with Article 3 obligations and whose initial transparency report is overdue since 2011

- (a) How can cooperation and assistance be effectively facilitated between States Parties with Article 3 obligations and international organizations with stockpile destruction expertise/capacities?
- (b) How can States Parties with pending Article 3 obligations effectively express their need or assistance and ensure that they have explored all existing avenues for receiving financial resources/technical expertise and in a timely manner?
- (c) How can States with obligations ensure that adequate political will and national ownership exist from the beginning as a key prerequisite for successful implementation of obligations?
- (d) How can States Parties with Article 3 obligations be more proactive in pursuing regional cooperation approaches to address their needs?

2. Progress report on Stockpile Destruction: monitoring progress in the implementation of the Dubrovnik Action Plan

- 10. Since entry into force of the CCM, of the 40 States Parties that reported to have had obligations under Article 3, 35 have since declared compliance. Therefore, only five States Parties remain with obligations under Article 3: Bulgaria, Guinea-Bissau, Peru, Slovakia and South Africa.
- 11. During the period under review, four States Parties (Botswana, Croatia, Spain and Switzerland) reported to have complied with Article 3 obligations ahead of their stipulated deadlines. This reduced the number of States Parties with stockpile destruction obligations under the Convention by almost fifty percent between the former and current reporting periods.
- 12. Three States Parties (Botswana, Croatia and Spain) used the Article 3 Declaration of Compliance template adopted at the 8MSP to officially announce the completion of the destruction of all stockpiled cluster munitions.
- 13. Of the five remaining States Parties with Article 3 obligations, three, (Bulgaria, Peru, and Slovakia) submitted their 2018 annual reports with updated information on Article 3 implementation; while one State Party (South Africa) has an overdue 2018 annual report; and one State Party (Guinea-Bissau) has still not submitted its initial transparency report.
- 14. During the period under review, one State Party (Bulgaria) with an Article 3 deadline on 1 October 2019 submitted an extension request to meet its obligations under Article 3 of the Convention.
- 15. Peru submitted an official notification informing that it would be seeking an extension of its 1 March 2021 Article 3 deadline.
- 16. The three States Parties with Article 3 obligations that submitted their 2018 annual reports, (Bulgaria, Peru and Slovakia) provided information on progress made in the destruction of their stockpiles and two (Peru and Slovakia) reported that a destruction plan was in place.
- 17. Peru and Slovakia reported having allocated national resources to their national programmes to comply with Article 3 obligations.
- 18. Peru reported that it had received technical assistance from an international clearance organization to train its personnel and start the destruction process.
- 19. Slovakia reported that it planned to destroy its stocks through its own capacities. However, it also mentioned that it was considering asking for international assistance to dispose of a specific type of cluster munition.
- 20. Two States Parties, (Peru and Slovakia) reported that they will ensure that destruction techniques followed national and international standards in terms of safety and protection of the environment.
- 21. Ten out of 13 States Parties that had previously declared retaining cluster munitions: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Netherlands, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland) reported in their 2018 annual report that they continued to retain cluster munitions and explosive sub-munitions for the purposes permitted by the Convention.
- 22. Ten States Parties (Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark Czech Republic, France, Germany, Netherlands, Slovakia, Spain and Switzerland provided an update on past and/or planned use of retained submunitions in accordance with Article 3.8. This represented a decrease in the level of reporting compared to the previous period where 11 States Parties had reported on the use of retained stocks.
- 23. Five States Parties (Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Spain and Switzerland) reported on the use of retained cluster munitions through trainings conducted which lead to a decrease in numbers.
- 24. Five States Parties (Bulgaria, France, Germany, Slovakia and Sweden) did not report any decrease in their retained stocks. Out of those five States, two (Sweden and Slovakia)

did not report any decrease in the number of retained cluster munitions since the submission of their initial transparency report in 2013 and 2016 respectively.

- The Netherlands indicated that it had transported part of its retained submunitions to another State Party for destruction which was planned for May 2019. The Netherlands clarified that it would reflect the formal destruction of these submunitions in its 2019 annual report.
- Cameroon that had previously declared having retained cluster munitions for the 26. purposes permitted by the Convention still has to submit its 2018 annual report and provide an update on the current and planned use of retained cluster munitions.
- Croatia reported to have retained a very limited number of inert cluster munitions for training and educational purposes.
- During the reporting period, the Coordinators on Stockpile Destruction and Retention held bilateral meetings with some States Parties to be reminded of their obligations under Article 3 of the Convention and encouraged to provide an update on the progress made towards the implementation of their commitments.

C. **Clearance and Risk Reduction Education**

Table 3			
2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made	
	Dubrovnik Action Plan Actions 3.1 to 3.8	During reporting period	
A decreased number of new victims, with the aim of zero	(a) Affected States Parties subject to obligations under Article 4 will endeavour to make every effort to promote clarity on the location, scope and extent of cluster munition remnants in areas under its jurisdiction or control, drawing on survey approaches (technical and non-technical) as	Eight States Parties reported on the location, scope and	
Increased amounts of suspected land released for		(a) Affected States Parties	extent of cluster munition contamination
subsistence, cultural, social and commercial purposes		One State Party reported on newly contaminated areas	
Better targeting of scarce clearance resources		Two States Parties reported on the discovery of new	
Larger freedom and safer movement		unreported contamination	
Increased exchange of information of good and cost-effective clearance practices including on safety, environmental impact and			
efficiency	Protect people from harm	Eight States Parties with Article 4 obligations reported to have provided risk reduction education and/or marked/fenced hazardous areas	
	Develop a resourced plan	Two States Parties with	
	(a) Affected States Parties will endeavour to develop and start the implementation of Article 4 compliant national clearance strategies and plans based on survey	Article 4 obligations to finish ahead of their stipulated deadline if given the necessary financial support	
		Three States Parties not on track	

2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik Action Plan Actions 3.1 to 3.8	During reporting period
	results and clearance rates, taking into account best practices, international and national standards and	Seven States Parties with Article 4 obligations reported to have allocated national resources to clearance
	methods	Eight States Parties reported on the status of progress of clearance programmes
	Be inclusive when developing the response	Four States Parties reported to involve affected communities in activities related to clearance and risk reduction education
	Manage information for analysis, decision-making and reporting	Four States Parties reported specifically on land release through methods other than clearance
	Provide support, assist and cooperate	18 States Parties reported to have provided assistance for clearance activities
	Apply practice development	Discussions held with affected States and clearance operators on effective clearance methodologies
		Coordinators contributed to the development of the guidelines for Article 3 and Article 4 extension requests
		Coordinators produced draft methodology for the analysis of Articles 3 and 4 extension requests
	Promote and expand cooperation	Coordinators participated in a country coalition round table to encourage States Parties with Article 3 or 4 obligations to establish partnerships

- (a) How can States Parties and other implementation actors best support the efforts of affected States to develop and implement cost-efficient survey and land-release plans of affected areas?
- (b) How can States Parties and other implementation actors best support affected States to finish their Article 4 obligations by their respective deadlines in order to ensure that only states with heavy contamination will probably need to request an extension?
- (c) How can States Parties and other implementation actors best support the efforts of affected States to develop and implement risk reduction education programmes?

- (d) How can States Parties and other implementation actors best support affected States in balancing resources dedicated to survey, clearance and risk reduction education?
- (e) How can States Parties and other implementation actors assist in mobilizing sufficient funds to support affected states in order to meet the Convention's obligations?

2. Progress report on Clearance and Risk Reduction Education: monitoring progress in the implementation of the Dubrovnik Action Plan

- 29. Ten States Parties have reported to be contaminated by cluster munition remnants and therefore had obligations under Article 4 during the reporting period: Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Chile, Croatia, Germany, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon and Montenegro.
- 30. Nine out of these 10 States Parties (Afghanistan, Chad, Chile, Croatia, Iraq, Germany, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon and Montenegro) have submitted their 2018 annual report with information on Article 4 implementation.
- 31. Eight States Parties (Afghanistan, Chile, Croatia, Iraq, Germany, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon and Montenegro) provided information in their 2018 annual reports on the location, scope and extent of cluster munition contamination and/or on the status and progress of programmes for the clearance for cluster munitions remnants on their national territory.
- 32. One State Party (Bosnia and Herzegovina) of the ten with Article 4 obligations still had not submitted its 2018 annual transparency report.
- 33. During the period under review, none of the States Parties with clearance obligations announced compliance with their obligations under Article 4.
- 34. Afghanistan informed that, with the necessary funds, it hoped to clear all remaining contaminated sites by the end of 2019, two years ahead of its treaty deadline.
- 35. Montenegro also reported that, depending on financial support provided, it would be able to clear all know contaminated areas and implement non-technical survey of potential new locations.
- 36. Two States Parties (Germany and Lao People's Democratic Republic) with clearance deadlines in 2020 submitted extension requests.
- 37. Lebanon informed that based on current available resources and capacity, it would not be able to clear the remaining 21.48 per cent of contaminated land by its treaty deadline of May 2021.
- 38. Iraq provided a work plan explaining that it would take another 5 years to meet its Article 4 obligations with a significant increase of its Non-Technical Survey, Technical Survey and Battle Area Clearance capacity.
- 39. Chile informed through Note Verbale that it would be submitting a request to extent its Article 4 deadline of 1 June 2021.
- 40. Croatia indicated that it had reduced the size of its contaminated land from 1.06 km² in 2017 to 0.26km² in 2018.
- 41. Four States Parties (Croatia, Iraq, Lebanon and Montenegro) reported on land release through methods other than clearance.
- 42. Lebanon reported that it had reviewed its initial baseline thereby reducing its estimated total CMR contamination by $4,290,513 \text{ m}^2$.
- 43. Iraq informed that while its estimated CMR contaminated land had increased, it had improved its yearly clearance rate.
- 44. Croatia and Lebanon reported on the discovery of previously unreported contaminated areas while Iraq informed that it had identified newly contaminated areas.
- 45. Chad did not provide any information on the estimated size and location of contaminated areas and requested assistance to implement non-technical surveys.

- 46. Six States Parties (Afghanistan, Chad, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon and Montenegro) through their Article 7 report informed on their challenges and/or on international assistance and cooperation needed to fulfil obligations under Article 4.
- 47. Seven States Parties (Chile, Croatia, Germany, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon and Montenegro) with Article 4 obligations reported to have allocated national resources to clearance operations.
- 48. Montenegro and Lebanon reported to have taken specific steps to mobilize national and/or international resources to support Article 4 implementation.
- 49. Seven States Parties (Afghanistan, Chad, Croatia, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon and Montenegro) reported to have received international cooperation and assistance to implement their Article 4 obligations.
- 50. Eight States Parties with Article 4 obligations (Afghanistan, Chile, Croatia, Iraq, Germany, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon and Montenegro) reported to have taken measures to provide risk reduction education and/or to prevent civilian access to areas contaminated by cluster munitions remnants through marking and fencing.
- 51. Croatia indicated that, although not being the only factor, the provision of comprehensive risk reduction education had contributed to not having registered any victims during the past two years.
- 52. To meet the goals of the Dubrovnik Action Plan, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Sweden, in their capacity as Coordinators for Clearance and Risk Reduction Education, undertook a number of activities during the period under review. This included the drafting of the *Methodology for requests of deadline extensions under Articles 3 and 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions*, in collaboration with the Coordinators on Stockpile Destruction and Retention and the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance. The methodology aims to ensure that each extension request is treated equally and that the report issued by the Analysis Group would be fair and balanced, as that would enhance the confidence of States Parties.
- 53. The Coordinators held bilateral meetings with Germany and Lao People's Democratic Republic, which have clearance deadlines in 2020 and have submitted extension requests to be considered at the 9MSP. The Coordinators drafted the Analysis Reports on the Article 4 extension requests submitted by Germany and Lao People's Democratic Republic, in collaboration with the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance (Lao People's Democratic Republic had excused itself from analyzing its own extension request).
- 54. With regard to DAP Action 3.8, on promoting and expanding cooperation, the Coordinators also participated in cross-cutting activities with the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance in order to enhance cooperation between affected and donor States. One such example was the participation of the Coordinators in a roundtable discussion on 13 March 2019 in Geneva that encouraged States Parties with Articles 3 and 4 deadlines to establish Country Coalitions.

D. Victim Assistance

Table 4

2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik Action Plan Actions 4.1 to 4.4	During reporting period
An improvement in the quality and quantity of assistance provided to persons with disabilities	Strengthen national capacity (a) Designating a focal point within the government to	Eight States Parties have a designated victim assistance national focal point Four States Parties have a
Strengthened respect for human rights to all persons		national plan to address Victim Assistance

2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik Action Plan Actions 4.1 to 4.4	During reporting period
Increased exchange of information of good and cost-effective practices Increased involvement of victims in consultations and policy-making and decisions making processes on issues that	coordinate victim assistance (b) Develop a national disability action plan or develop a national action plan on victim assistance	Five States Parties allocated national resources to victim assistance activities
		One State Party to adopt a holistic approach to victim assistance in the spirit of the CRPD
concern them Increased cooperation assistance for victim assistance programmes, through traditional		One State Party in the process of redrafting its National Disability Strategy to be completed by December 2019
mechanisms, and south-south, regional and triangular cooperation and in linking national focal points and centres		One State Party with an independent authority to lead with victim assistance related work
Increased demonstration of results achieved and/or expected results in Article7 transparency reports		Three States Parties with victim assistance efforts integrated into the broader disability sector
	Increase the involvement of victims	Six States Parties reported involving victims and/or people with disabilities in decision making processes on victim assistance
	Share information	Eight of 11 States Parties with Article 5 obligations submitted their 2018 Article 7 transparency report
		Three States Parties reported on new cluster munition victims
		Five States Parties reported on data collection and provided disaggregated victim data
		One State Party reported on a new survey to start in 2019
		Coordinators participated in a victim assistance retreat across Conventions to share plans and objectives for 2019
		Guidelines on Gender and Diversity-Responsive Victim Assistance in Mine Action uploaded onto CCM website

2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik Action Plan Actions 4.1 to 4.4	During reporting period
	Provide support, assist and cooperate	Six States Parties reported on assistance services provided to victims
		Seven States Parties reported on efforts made to mobilize national and international resources for victim assistance
		Seven States Parties requested assistance specifically for victim assistance
		Four States Parties reported to need more than just financial assistance to fulfil their Article 5 obligations
		Seven States Parties reported on international assistance and cooperation received for victim assistance
		One State Party reported specific financial gaps and needs to fulfil its Article 5 and CRPD obligations
		Two States Parties reported that the lack of funding towards victim assistance resulted in a decrease of planned activities

- (a) What obstacles prevent states from designating national focal points on victim assistance?
- (b) What obstacles prevent states from developing national disability action plans and national action plans on victim assistance?
- (c) Why are victims not more involved and what needs to be done to overcome obstacles to the full participation of people with disabilities?
 - (d) How can information exchange support Article 5 implementation?
- (e) What good practices can ensure the sustainability and effective targeting of cooperation and assistance on victim assistance?

2. Progress report on Victim Assistance: monitoring progress in the implementation of the Dubrovnik Action Plan

55. Eleven States Parties (Afghanistan, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Croatia, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Montenegro and Sierra Leone) have reported having cluster munition victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control.

- 56. As at 30 June 2019, eight States Parties (Afghanistan, Albania, Chad, Croatia, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, and Montenegro) with victim assistance obligations had submitted their 2018 Article 7 transparency report; two States Parties (Bosnia and Herzegovina and Sierra Leone) missed the due date for submission of their 2018 annual report and one State Party (Guinea-Bissau) still had not submitted its initial transparency report which was due in 2011.
- 57. Afghanistan announced that its government had created an independent authority, the Ministry for Martyrs and Disability Affairs, to lead all the work related to victim assistance. Four States Parties (Albania, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Lebanon) reported having a national disability action plan or a victim assistance national action plan in place. One State Party (Croatia) stated that it had strived to adopt a holistic and integrated approach to victim assistance in the spirit of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).
- 58. Iraq and Lebanon informed that their National Mine Action Strategy included victim assistance activities. One State Party (Chad) reported that it had developed a Victim Assistance National Plan in 2017 but that it still had not been approved by the relevant ministry. One State Party (Afghanistan) reported that due to the establishment of the Ministry for Martyrs and Disability Affairs, it was redrafting its National Disability Strategy to be completed by December 2019.
- 59. Afghanistan, Albania and Montenegro reported that they have no specific laws for cluster munitions victims, but that victim assistance is integrated into the broader disability sector, which include the health, education and social welfare system. One State Party (Iraq) reported having adopted a law on social protection of people with disabilities. One State Party (Lebanon) reported that it carried out a study on its Law 220/2000 on disabilities and deployed advocacy efforts to have it implemented. One State Party (Chad) reported that it had developed a comprehensive law for people with disabilities but that an implementing decree was yet to be issued. One State Party (Lao People's Democratic Republic) reported to be still carrying out the Safe Path Forward II policy that complements existing laws related to the health sector.
- 60. Six States Parties (Afghanistan, Albania, Croatia, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Lebanon) reported on efforts made to actively involve victims and/or people with disabilities in victim assistance planning and implementation.
- 61. Five States Parties (Albania, Croatia, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Lebanon) reported on victim data collection and provided disaggregated data on victims. One State Party (Iraq) reported that ongoing armed conflict had resulted in an increased number of victims during the period under review. In total, three States Parties (Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Lebanon) reported on new cluster munition victims in 2018.
- 62. Croatia explained that it would start a survey among victims and their families with the aim of further increasing socioeconomic reintegration. One State Party (Lao People's Democratic Republic) informed that a Project Document for the period of 2017-2021 for the UXO sector had been established and was being administered by UNDP.
- 63. Seven States Parties (Afghanistan, Albania, Croatia, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, and Montenegro) informed that they had made efforts to mobilize national and international resources for victim assistance with five (Albania, Croatia, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Lebanon) having allocated national resources to victim assistance (in-kind and/or financial).
- 64. Seven States Parties (Afghanistan, Albania, Chad, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, and Montenegro) requested international assistance and cooperation specifically for victim assistance. Two States Parties (Afghanistan and Lao People's Democratic Republic) reported that due to a lack of funding towards victim assistance programmes, they had not been able to carry out all the activities planned for the year. One State Party (Albania) informed that it had identified specific financial gaps and needs faced in fulfilling its obligations under the CCM and the CRPD. Four States Parties (Chad, Iraq, Lebanon and Montenegro) identified that they needed more than just financial assistance to fulfil their obligations under Article 5.

- 65. Seven States Parties (Afghanistan, Albania, Chad, Croatia, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Lebanon) reported on international assistance and cooperation received for victim assistance.
- 66. During the year VA Coordinators, Ireland and Spain, had pursued the main objectives in the implementation of VA obligations under the Convention with a view to increased exchange of information on good practices and challenges their implementation. They also increased coordination with Victim Assistance Coordinators of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) as well as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).
- 67. In early 2019, the Coordinators held a series of informal meetings with a number of States Parties in the margins of the National Mine Action Directors' meeting in Geneva requesting updates on progress towards implementation of their victim assistance commitments.
- 68. The Coordinators continued efforts to facilitate increased information exchange among States Parties on the implementation of obligations in order to identify good practices as possible useful resources for other States Parties and provide a platform to share information on challenges and assistance needs. These exchanges permitted the identification of several challenges relating to implementation. More generally, it was reconfirmed that securing long-term financial and other resources for victim assistance, especially with regards to rehabilitation, psychological, social and economic support, remains very difficult for affected States. Broadly speaking, in the framework of the CCM and other related Conventions, the level of international assistance dedicated to victim assistance represents a very small percentage of total mine action funding, falling far short of recipients' needs. It is variously reported as falling just below 4 per cent.
- 69. In building on previous efforts, Coordinators continued to work to improve coordination on victim assistance issues with other relevant disarmament conventions. In January 2019, Coordinators participated in a second retreat organized by the Committee on Victim Assistance of the APMBC, together with the Victim Assistance Coordinators of Protocol V of the CCW, and the Committees on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance of the APMBC and the CCM. This second retreat provided an opportunity to share plans and objectives for 2019, discuss respective priorities and identify possible opportunities for cooperation, with a view to promoting concerted and synergistic approaches to victim assistance. Participants agreed to pursue discussions in this regard.
- 70. Coordinators continued to promote the Guidelines on Gender and Diversity-Responsive Victim Assistance in Mine Action, produced last year by the Gender and Mine Action Programme (GMAP) and had them uploaded onto the CCM website, thus extending global outreach.

E. International Cooperation and Assistance

Table 5		
2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik action plan actions 5.1 to 5.7	During reporting period
A decrease in the number of new victims and a better quality of life for victims An increased number of States Parties that finish stockpile destruction in advance of their eight-year deadlines	Strengthen partnerships at all levels	Potential partnerships discussed 12 States Parties reported to have received assistance from donor States and/or international organisations Coordinators participated in a Country Coalition round table

2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik action plan actions 5.1 to 5.7	During reporting period
A better targeting of scarce resources		to encourage establishment of targeted partnerships
Increased technical and material assistance, transfer of skills and good practices	Communicate challenges and seek assistance	Nine States Parties requested assistance
Increased and improved reporting on challenges and needs for assistance		One State Party reported to be considering requesting international assistance for a
An increase of multi-year partnerships for cooperation including multi-year funding		specific activity Coordinators reached out to
arrangements An increase in the exchange of information of good and cost-effective clearance and stockpile destruction practices including on safety, environmental impact and efficiency An increase in cooperation and assistance for victim assistance programming, with the aim to ensure that victims can participate in all aspects of life on an equal basis		States Parties that have requested assistance to implement their Art. 3 and 4 obligations
	Evidence based needs for better results	One State Party requested support to carry out UXO survey
		One State Party requested support to define the real scope of cluster munition remnants contamination
	Take ownership	13 States Parties reported having allocated national resources to fulfil their CCM obligations
	Respond constructively to request for assistance	22 States Parties reported to have provided assistance to affected States
	Make use of existing tools, cost efficiency and effectiveness	34 States Parties reported either having requested, provided or received assistance
	Support implementation support	56 States Parties paid contributions towards the ISU 2018 budget

- (a) What are the key ways in which States Parties can provide cooperation and assistance under the Convention, whether they are affected or donor States?
- (b) What can be done to enhance the implementation of partnerships under the Convention, including Country Coalitions?
- (c) How can the sharing of information on needs and capacity to provide assistance under the Convention be enhanced, including through Article 7 reporting?

2. Progress report on International Cooperation and Assistance: monitoring progress in the implementation of the Dubrovnik Action Plan

- 71. Nine States Parties (Afghanistan, Albania, Chad, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Montenegro, Peru, and State of Palestine) requested specific assistance in their annual transparency report for 2018.
- 72. One State Party (Peru) specifically requested technical assistance to fulfil obligations under Article 3 through its 2018 annual transparency report. Another State Party with an upcoming Article 3 deadline, Slovakia, is considering requesting international assistance for a specific activity related to its Article 3 obligations.
- 73. Six States Parties (Afghanistan, Chad, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, and Montenegro) requested assistance to fulfil obligations under Article 4 through their 2018 annual transparency report. One State Party with no obligations under Article 4 (State of Palestine) requested support to carry out a UXO survey. One State Party, Chad, requested support to define the real scope of cluster munition remnants contamination.
- 74. Five States Parties (Afghanistan, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, and Montenegro) specifically requested assistance to provide risk reduction education.
- 75. Seven States Parties (Afghanistan, Albania, Chad, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, and Montenegro) specifically requested assistance to fulfil obligations under Article 5 through their 2018 annual transparency report.
- 76. Contrastingly, 22 States Parties reported to have provided assistance to affected States (Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland). This represents a slight increase from 21 in 2017. Six of the donor States reported that they had provided assistance for stockpile destruction; 18 reported providing support for clearance activities; 18 reported contributing to victim assistance programmes; and 17 reported giving support to risk reduction education.
- 77. Twelve States Parties (Afghanistan, Albania, Botswana, Bulgaria, Chad, Croatia, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Montenegro, Peru, and State of Palestine) reported to have received assistance from other States Parties and/or stakeholder organisations. Three States Parties with Article 3 deadlines (Botswana, Bulgaria and Peru) reported on specific assistance received to fulfil their Article 3 obligations. Six States Parties with upcoming Article 4 deadlines (Afghanistan, Chad, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, and Montenegro) reported on specific assistance received by an international clearance organization. In their 2018 reports, seven States Parties with cluster munition victims (Afghanistan, Albania, Chad, Croatia, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Lebanon) reported having received assistance to fulfil their Article 5 obligations.
- 78. Thirteen States Parties with obligations under the Convention reported having allocated national resources to fulfil these obligations (Albania, Botswana, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Germany, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Montenegro, Peru, Slovakia, and Switzerland). This was an increase from nine in 2017.
- 79. During the period under review, States Parties with upcoming deadlines under Articles 3 and 4 were encouraged to make best use of Article 7 reports to communicate their needs for international cooperation and assistance and thereby ensure timely completion of their obligations. Article 7 reports are a critical resource used by Coordinators to bring together States Parties with needs and donors and/or civil society partners with the capacity to assist.
- 80. Consistent with the DAP, Coordinators focused on enhancing communication between States Parties on their challenges, needs and their capacity to provide assistance to address these (Action 5.2), and facilitating the formation of partnerships between States Parties to meet pressing obligations under the Convention (Action 5.1), including through the Country Coalitions initiative of the 7MSP Presidency.

- 81. Building on the work of previous Coordinators, with the outstanding support of the ISU, and in line with their concept note designed for the period up to the 9MSP, Coordinators focused on States Parties with upcoming Articles 3 and 4 deadlines. To this end, Coordinators, reached out to Thematic Coordinators on Articles 3 and 4 to explore synergies and gain a better understanding of the challenges faced by those States Parties.
- 82. Coordinators also further promoted the Country Coalitions concept. In this context, Coordinators participated in an informal round table discussion organized by the ISU on the Country Coalitions Concept held on 13 March 2019 in Geneva. The event moderated by Sri Lanka in its capacity as 9MSP Presidency was made possible thanks to the generous financial contribution of Canada. The round table provided an excellent platform for an interactive discussion on the Country Coalitions concept.
- 83. Furthermore, Coordinators played an active role in the development of the methodology for the analysis deadline extension requests under Articles 3 and 4. The also as participated in the analysis of the first three extension requests submitted for consideration. As members of both the Article 3 and Article 4 Analysis Groups, the Coordinators engaged in all the meetings and consultations related to the three extension requests that were submitted during the period under review. These processes provided Coordinators with yet another opportunity to draw attention to the Country Coalitions concept as a way of effectively meeting treaty obligations through enhanced coordination.
- 84. Finally, Coordinators reached out to States Parties that requested assistance through their 2018 annual transparency reports and held a series of bilateral meetings. The aim of these meetings was to seek clarification on the exact needs of the requesting States Parties to determine the best way Coordinators could provide support in line with their mandate and the opportunity provided by the Country Coalitions concept.

F. Transparency Measures

Table 6

2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik action plan actions 6.1 to 6.2	During reporting period
An increase in the rate of submissions of transparency reports provided under Article 7 Improved quality in reporting	Report in time, initially and annually	56 States Parties submitted their 2018 annual transparency reports while 33 were still outstanding
Increased exchange of information of good and cost-effective reporting practices		One State Party submitted its initial transparency report ahead of its deadline
Increased use of the reporting guide that reflects the actual need for qualitative information and represents a useful tool for States Parties to submit initial reports and annual updates		One State Party submitted its overdue initial transparency report
		12 States Parties still have overdue initial transparency reports
	Make practical use of reporting	Nine out of 56 States requested for cooperation and assistance through their transparency report

1. Questions/challenges for discussion at the Ninth Meeting of States Parties

(a) What are the factors that facilitate enhanced submission rates of both initial and annual transparency reports?

(b) What best practices on reporting could be shared to enhance quality of reports and increase submission rate?

2. Progress report on Transparency Measures: monitoring progress in the implementation of the Dubrovnik Action Plan

- 85. All States Parties to the CCM are required to report, initially, within 180 days of entry into force of the CCM for the State Party, and then annually with updates by 30 April. 103 out of 106 States Parties had reporting obligations during the period under review.
- 86. According to the information available on the UNODA Article 7 database on 30 June 2019, a total of 91 initial transparency reports due from 103 States Parties had been submitted as required by Article 7 of the Convention, representing approximately 88 per cent of States Parties for which the obligation applied at that time.
- 87. During the period under review, one State Party (Sri Lanka) submitted its initial transparency report ahead of its stipulated deadline while another State Party (Tunisia) submitted its overdue initial transparency report.
- 88. As at 30 June 2019, 12 States Parties still had overdue initial transparency reports: Benin, Cape Verde, Comoros, Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iceland, Madagascar, Rwanda, Somalia, and Togo.
- 89. As at 30 June 2019, 56 States Parties of 89 had submitted their 2018 annual transparency report, leaving 33 States Parties with overdue 2018 annual transparency reports. Therefore, out of 103 States Parties that should have submitted either an initial or annual Article 7 transparency report by 30 April 2019, 45 still needed to do so..
- 90. For the new States Parties Namibia, the Gambia and the Philippines, the deadline for the submission of their initial transparency reports will be due on 31 July 2019, 28 November 2019 and 28 December 2019 respectively; 180 days after the into force of the Convention for each State.
- 91. During the period under review, in performing its mandate, the Coordinator on matters pertaining to Transparency Measures sent 59 letters to States Parties that had overdue initial or 2018 annual reports. The Coordinator held two rounds of bilateral meetings with most States Parties with outstanding initial transparency reports to explore possible solutions to overcome challenges related to the submission of overdue reports.
- 92. A presentation on Article 7 obligations and the importance to submit detailed and comprehensive reports was made during a closed lunchtime event hosted by New Zealand, Coordinator on National Implementation Measures, in October 2018 in the margins of the United Nations General Assembly First Committee.

G. National Implementation Measures

2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made During reporting period
	Dubrovnik action plan actions 7.1 to 7.3	
	Enact national legislation to implement the CCM	30 States Parties with specific national law to implement the CCM
		12 States Parties with legislation prohibiting investments in cluster munitions

2 nd Review Conference Goals	Actions to be taken	Progress made
	Dubrovnik action plan actions 7.1 to 7.3	During reporting period
		27 States Parties with sufficient existing law to implement the CCM
		14 States Parties reported updates on national implementation measures
		Six States Parties provided supplementary information on national legislation to implement the CCM
	Highlight challenges and request assistance	One CCM regional workshop in Manila, the Philippines, provided a forum for countries in the region to share challenges
	Raise awareness of national implementation measures	One workshop on Articles 7 and 9 in the margins of UNGA First Committee in New York
		Awareness raising and promotion of model legislation at CCM regional workshop in Manila, the Philippines
		Bilateral and regional outreach

- (a) What would encourage those States Parties that have yet to do so to review their national legislation and report on it?
- (b) How can uptake of existing implementation tools, including model legislation, be improved?
- (c) How can we encourage States Parties and Signatory States to identify specific assistance that may be needed to implement the CCM?
- (d) Beyond the introduction of national legislation, in what ways can States Parties address the issue of investment in cluster munitions?
- (e) How can States Parties be further encouraged to share best practices with respect to the dissemination to relevant national stakeholders of national obligations under the CCM?

2. Progress report on National Implementation Measures: monitoring progress in the implementation of the Dubrovnik Action Plan

93. During the period under review, work on National Implementation Measures strived to make progress towards achievement of the two relevant goals agreed in the DAP, namely: "all States Parties being in compliance with Article 9 and have reported on national implementation in formal meetings of the Convention and through Article 7 transparency reports; and all relevant national actors, including armed forces being informed of obligations

under the Convention and of National Implementation Measures including as a result of their reflection, where necessary in military doctrine, policies and training."

- 94. In the absence of intersessional meetings, States Parties have been encouraged to submit written updates on their National Implementation Measures, particularly through the timely submission of Article 7 transparency reports. The Coordinator on National Implementation Measures, New Zealand, with the support of the ISU and the Coordinator on Transparency Measures, Iraq, hosted a workshop in New York on 11 October 2018 in the margins of the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly First Committee and highlighted the importance of States Parties including information on implementing legislation in their initial and annual reports.
- 95. Issues relating to National Implementation Measures, including challenges as well as the availability of tools to assist States Parties, were also highlighted at the Regional Workshop on the CCM. The workshop held in Manila, the Philippines, from 18 to 19 June 2019, was sponsored by New Zealand and Switzerland and attended by 8 Asian and Pacific States not Party to the CCM and 5 States Parties. The Coordinator for National Implementation Measures also continued outreach to Pacific Island States on issues raised during the Pacific Conference on Conventional Weapons Treaties held in Auckland in February 2018 by carrying out bilateral visits to Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu.
- 96. Additionally, a number of States Parties reported on National Implementation Measures in their Article 7 initial and/or annual reports:
- 97. One State Party, Sri Lanka, submitted its initial transparency report during the period under review and reported that an analysis of existing law was taking place to determine how it could implement the CCM domestically.
- 98. One State Party in its overdue initial transparency report, Tunisia, reported that the Ministry of Justice had established a national committee to review the provisions of the Penal Code, which include the points dealt with by the review of the international crimes system through the introduction of new crimes, such as crimes of genocide and crimes against humanity, as well as the crimes of the use of internationally prohibited weapons.
- 99. Out of the 56 States Parties that have submitted their 2018 annual report, 14 States Parties (Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Peru, Panama, Slovenia, Spain, State of Palestine, Switzerland, and Zambia) reported updates on national implementation.
- 100. Of the 2018 annual reports submitted for the period under review, six States Parties provided supplementary/additional information on its national legislation to implement the CCM.
- 101. Bulgaria reported that its *Law on the Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions* that was adopted in 2015 had undergone amendments in January 2018.
- 102. Croatia reported amendments to the *Act on Mine Action* made in December 2018 to reflect the restructuring of its state administration bodies.
- 103. Panama, which had previously reported that its existing law was sufficient to implement the CCM, listed the articles and highlighted relevant sections of its Criminal Code in its 2018 annual report.
- 104. Slovenia informed of amendments to article 307 of its Criminal Code pertaining to "Illegal Manufacture of and Trade in Weapons or Explosive Materials" in 2017.
- 105. Spain reported on the development of its national legal, administrative and other measures to implement the CCM.
- 107. The State of Palestine reported that its Constitutional Court issued in November 2017 that international law superseded national law.
- 106. Four States Parties (Afghanistan, Lebanon, State of Palestine and Zambia) gave an update on the progress made regarding the review and/or adoption of legislation to implement the CCM.

108. Afghanistan reported having adopted specific law to implement the CCM as an annex of its *Law on Firearms*, *Ammunition and Explosive Materials*. This specific law also prohibits investment in cluster munitions.