



**Sixth Meeting of States Parties (6MSP) to the Convention on
Cluster Munitions (CCM)**
Geneva, 5 – 7 September 2016

**REPORT ON CROATIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE
CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS**
September – December 2015

The First Review Conference to the Convention on Cluster Munitions was held in Dubrovnik, Croatia from 7 – 11 September 2015 and was presided over by the then Prime Minister of Croatia, Mr. Zoran Milanović.

During 4-month presidency over the CCM, Croatia presided over two Coordination Committee meetings and worked closely with all the thematic coordinators and the ISU CCM on fulfillment of the aims charted in the Dubrovnik Action Plan (DAP). Some of the significant developments that took place during these four months were the following:

- Two new States Parties to the Convention; Somalia and Mauritius, on 30 September and 1 October 2015 respectively.
- Germany and Italy became compliant with Article 3 after destroying all its stockpiles ahead of schedule, three and five years respectively.
- In close cooperation with the current CCM President, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, on 20 October 2015, Croatia submitted to the 1st Committee of the 70th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, for the first time, a resolution on the “Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions” which was co-sponsored by 29 States.
- When the Resolution was put to the vote on 4 November 2015, a total of 130 States voted in support; 40 abstained and only 2 voted against it (Russian Federation and Zimbabwe).
- We were also active in expressing concern on continued reports about documented and alleged use of cluster munitions in Syria and Yemen, while at the same time emphasizing the need for the norm against this weapon to be further strengthened.

- From September till December 2015, Croatia was undertaking appropriate steps within its territory to safeguard the wave of migrants and refugees crossing through the country on their way to other EU countries in search of a safe haven. Croatia was being used as a transit route and there was concern that some of these may go close to then mine suspected areas (MSA).
- In this regard, relevant state bodies, including the Office for Mine Action, with an immense help from a number of CSOs and NGOs¹, had put in place mitigation measures (mine danger signs, mine risk leaflets, media appeals etc.) and we are happy to report that there had been no reports of any mine accidents in that period.
- During our Presidency, the Director of the ISU CCM initiated preparations for the recruitment of other ISU staff, notably the Implementation Support Specialist (ISS). In connection with this issue, we are happy to report that we have left our Presidency and the Convention as a whole in sound financial situation².

¹Croatian Mine Action Center (CROMAC), National Protection and Rescue Directorate, Ministry of Interior, Croatian Red Cross, Jesuit Refugee Service SEE, UNICEF, UNDP, Initiative „Welcome“ etc.

²With the carry-over of funds from 2015, it was said to be enough to cover two full-time positions (Director and ISS) in 2016.