



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

2017 2nd Quarter

Highlights

(1 April – 30 June)



7TH MEETING
OF STATES PARTIES
4–6 SEPTEMBER
GENEVA 2017

Welcome to Madagascar!

 By depositing its instrument of ratification with the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 20 May 2017, the Republic of Madagascar has become the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) 101st State Party. Madagascar's ratification marked a significant step towards reaching the goal of 130 States Parties by the Second Review Conference to take place in 2020. In warmly congratulating Madagascar on its ratification of the CCM, H.E. Ambassador Biontino, President of the 7MSP, reiterated its call to States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the CCM to consider joining.

Kampala CCM Ratification Seminar

The CCM Ratification Seminar took place in Kampala, Uganda on 29–30 May 2017. The seminar was organized by France and Zambia (CCM Coordinators on Universalization) together with New Zealand (CCM Coordinator on National Implementation Measures) and co-hosted by the Government of Uganda. The seminar was funded by the generous contribution of the Government of New Zealand. Representatives of the ICRC and CMC also participated in the meeting as resource persons. The CCM-ISU provided logistical and technical input to the seminar. Nine (9) African signatory States (DRC, Kenya, Liberia, Namibia, Nigeria, Sao



Tome and Principe, Tanzania, The Gambia and Uganda) and new State Party Madagascar attended the seminar. The purpose of the seminar was to provide an opportunity for signatory States in Africa to discuss challenges and possible solutions to ratifying the CCM. Signatory States present provided updates on their position and plans to ratify the Convention and shared the specific challenges they face in doing so. The seminar concluded with participants expressing their commitment to the Convention and their hope to move towards prompt ratification.

Land Release Workshop



Universalizing Land Release was the topic of the workshop co-hosted and co-funded by the German Presidency of the CCM and the Austrian Presidency of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) with the support of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). It took place in Geneva on 7 June 2017. The aim of the workshop was to enhance understanding of and exchange good practices in the implementation of the Land Release approach, notably the role of non-technical surveys, to help affected States address weapons contamination in the most effective and efficient manner possible and meet their respective Conventions completion targets.

Closed follow-up event on *Enhancing International Cooperation and Assistance*

Australia and Iraq (CCM Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance) hosted a follow-up informal meeting in Geneva on 9 June 2017, in the margins of the APMBC intersessional meeting. Representatives of 14 States, a combination of donor States and States with obligations under the Convention, came together to exchange their views on challenges, needs and capacities for international cooperation and assistance. The meeting also addressed the role of the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance with a particular focus on the CCM presidency's initiative, the "Country Coalition" concept for enhancing International Cooperation and Assistance on implementation of the CCM.

South-East European Regional Workshop on the Country Coalition concept



Jointly organized by the Regional Centre for Security Cooperation (RACVIAC) and the CCM Presidency with the support of the CCM-ISU, a two half-day meeting on *Enhancing implementation of Articles 3 and 4 of the CCM through the Country Coalition concept* took place on 12 and 13 June 2017 at RACVIAC, Croatia.

The workshop, which was funded by the Federal Republic of Germany, was attended by representatives of 5 States (3 from South-East European States and 2 from other regions). Participating as resource persons were CCM President, representatives from Australia, the Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Croatian Mine Action Centre, Norwegian People's Aid, the CMC, Mines Advisory Group and the ISU-CCM Director.

The purpose of the workshop was to discuss future developments impacting the implementation of the CCM, by focusing on the concept of establishing Country Coalitions (i.e. with a country specific focus) as a means to enhance international cooperation and ownership by States Parties to the CCM and thus support the implementation of specific aspects of the Convention in South-East Europe.

Get ready for the Seventh Meeting of States Parties

The Seventh Meeting of States Parties of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (7MSP) will take place in Geneva from **4 to 6 September 2017**, in Room XIX at the Palais des Nations. States, international organizations and civil society representatives wishing to participate should send letters/notes verbales to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) by Friday, **18 August 2017** at ccm@unog.ch or at the UNODA office.

For more information: <http://www.unog.ch/> or <http://www.clusterconvention.org/>

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