

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

2021 3rd Quarter

## <u>Highlights</u>

(1 July – 30 September 2021)

Second Review Conference successfully concluded



Presided over by H.E. Mr. Félix Baumann, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Conference on Disarmament, the CCM Second Review Conference of States Parties (2RC) was held in two parts, on 25–27 November 2020 in virtual format and on 20–21 September 2021 in hybrid format at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. The Conference reviewed the progress achieved on CCM implementation since the First Review Conference (Dubrovnik, 2015) as guided by the Dubrovnik Action Plan. The *Lausanne Action Plan* was adopted to support significant and sustainable progress on the implementation of the Convention in the period 2021–2026. In expressing its firm commitment to the norms of the CCM, States Parties adopted the *Lausanne Declaration: Protecting Lives, Empowering Victims, Enabling Development.* 

On the final day of the Conference, H.E. Mr. Aidan Liddle, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Conference of Disarmament, was confirmed as President of the Tenth Meeting of States Parties (10MSP), which is scheduled to take place from 30 August to 2 September 2022. H.E. Mr. Abdul-Karim Hashim Mostafa, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, was designated as President of the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties (11MSP). Statements and documents of the 2RC can be found on the <u>CCM website</u>.

### Informal briefing and consultations in preparation for the 2RC



In the lead up to the 2RC, Ambassador Félix Baumann held an informal briefing on 27 August 2021 to provide information on the organization of the 2RC Part 2 and update on the process in the lead up to the Conference. The briefing was held in hybrid format at the Palais des Nations where remote participation was also made possible.

On 6, 13 and 17 September 2021, the 2RC President also convened informal meetings at the Palais des Nations for CCM stakeholders to come to an agreement on the formulation of the draft Lausanne Declaration's paragraph 8.



Five virtual side events took place on 20 and 21 September 2021 in the margins of the 2RC Part 2, including a webinar to discuss how Pacific countries can engage in and benefit from the CCM conducted by SafeGround Inc, the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) and the New Zealand Permanent Mission to Geneva. Another meeting was hosted by the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) to profile the progress and challenges in Lebanon's cluster munition clearance. The Explosive Ordnance Risk Education Advisory Group (EORE AG) also organized an informational session on 'context-specific, tailor-made risk education'.

Following its launch on 15 September, the 2021 *Cluster Munition Monitor* briefing was held on 20 September to discuss recent developments in cluster munition ban policy, use, production, trade and stockpiling, as well as cluster munition clearance, risk education and victim assistance. The briefing on the latest *Clearing Cluster Munition Remnants*, published in September 2021, took place on 21 September, where an in-depth exchange on the achievements and challenges of cluster munition clearance transpired.

### Update on deadline extension requests

Three extension requests under Article 4 were considered and granted at the 2RC Part 2. Chile was given a further 12-month extension up to 1 June 2023, following the submission of its technical survey work plan to the Conference. Mauritania, which had discovered previously unknown contamination after having declared completion of its Article 4 obligations in 2014, was granted a 2-year extension of its deadline until 1 August 2024. Afghanistan, which had formerly reported to being on track, submitted an extension request in August 2021 due to deferred disbursement of donor funds as well as new discovery of contaminated areas. The 2RC granted Afghanistan a 4-year extension until 1 March 2026 while noting that the major political developments the country was undergoing might raise challenges regarding its implementation of Article 4 obligations in the future.



### Composition of the 2021–2022 Coordination Committee

10MSP President: United Kingdom 11MSP President-Designate: Iraq Immediate Past President (2RC): Switzerland

General Status & Operation	Namibia & France	Univerzalisation	Philippines & Spain
Stockpile Destruction	Australia & Bulgaria	Clearance & Risk Education	Sweden & Guyana
Victim Assistance	Mexico & Chile	International Cooperation &	Montenegro & Germany
		Assistance	
Transparency Measures	Iraq	National Implementation	New Zealand
		Measures	

Contact details

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