Quarterly Newsletter

1 April - 30 June 2022

HIGHLIGHTS
- CCM 10MSP open for registration
- Intersessional Meeting successfully held
- ISU supports Iraq implementation

Tenth Meeting of States Parties (10MSP)

The Tenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (10MSP) is scheduled to take place from 30th August to 2nd September 2022 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. The provisional Agenda of the Meeting and the 2023 work plan and budget of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of the Convention are now available online here.

The details of delegations to the 10MSP should be submitted via Note Verbale by Friday, 19 August 2022, to the following address:

Office for Disarmament Affairs, Geneva Branch
United Nations Office at Geneva
Palais des Nations, Building H,
Second Floor, WP.24
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Email: ccm@un.org

More information on the 10MSP will be provided on the UNODA and CCM website shortly. Both websites will be regularly updated with meeting details and documents as they become available.
**2022 Intersessional Meeting**

Ambassador Aidan Liddle, CCM 10MSP President, chaired the 2022 Intersessional Meeting which took place from 16 to 17 May 2022 at the International Conference Centre of Geneva (CICG). This was the first Intersessional Meeting for the Convention since 2015 and was held in a hybrid format.

The Second Review Conference agreed to revive in 2022, on a trial basis, the practice of holding an Intersessional Meeting to monitor progress on the implementation of Convention obligations and on the Lausanne Action Plan.

The meeting also provided an opportunity for the Coordination Committee to consult States Parties on some of the key decisions to be taken at the 10MSP. During the two-day meeting, the CCM community discussed progress made, and challenges related to CCM implementation particularly regarding Article 3 (stockpile destruction) and Article 4 (clearance and risk education). States Parties with requests for deadline extensions to be considered at the 10MSP were also afforded the opportunity to present their draft requests for comments. The financial status of the Convention as well as substantive issues related to the CCM machinery were also discussed.

Statements and documents of the Meeting are available on the CCM website.

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**ISU support to CCM implementation in Iraq**

In June 2022, the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) undertook a support mission to Basra in response to a request from Iraq to provide it with assistance in the preparation of its Article 4 extension request. To this end, a 3-day workshop was held from 11 to 14 June in Basra, which is the heaviest cluster munition-contaminated provinces in the country. The workshop was attended by representatives of the Iraq Directorate of Mine Action (DMA), Iraq Regional Mine Action Centre (RMAC-South) and iMMAP (Information Management and Mine Action Programs).

Iraq has a 1 November 2023 deadline to comply with its clearance obligations. However, in addition to the high degree of cluster munition-contamination, Iraq has informed the ISU that it will not be able to meet its deadline due to the ever-expanding contaminated area to be addressed. Consequently, Iraq will submit a request to extend its deadline to be considered at the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties (11MSP) in 2023. The support to Iraq was to ensure that the request is submitted no later than 1 December 2022, nine months ahead of the 11MSP in accordance with Article 4.5 of the Convention.

As a follow-up to this in-country support visit, on 23 June 2022, the ISU met with Dr. Jassim Abdul Aziz Al-Falahi, Minister of Environment of Iraq, in the sidelines of the 25th Meeting of Mine Action Directors and United Nations Advisers (NDM-UN25) in Geneva, Switzerland. Dr. Al-Falahi highlighted Iraq’s efforts in CCM implementation including on victim assistance, as Iraq has more than 100,000 victims in need of ongoing support and rehabilitation. ISU Director, Ms. Sheila N. Mweemba, briefed the Minister that the recent ISU visit to Iraq had given it more understanding of the challenges posed by cluster munition contamination and the amount of work Iraq still had to do to comply with its CCM obligations. She also emphasized on the importance of sharing these challenges with the international community as part of Iraq’s resource mobilization efforts.
Extension requests to be considered at the 10MSP

Four extension requests have been submitted for consideration at the 10MSP.

Bulgaria submitted on 29 April 2022 a request to extend its Article 3 (stockpile destruction) deadline of 1 October 2022, for a further 15 months up to 31 December 2023.

Chad submitted on 10 June 2022 a request to extend its Article 4 deadline of 1 September 2023, for one year up to 1 October 2024.

Bosnia and Herzegovina submitted on 14 June 2022 a request to extend its Article 4 deadline of 1 September 2022, for a further 12 months up to 1 September 2023.

Chile submitted a request on 22 April 2022 to extend its Article 4 (clearance and risk reduction education) deadline of 1 June 2023, for 4 years up to 1 June 2026.

The requests and the feedback of the relevant ad hoc Analysis Group are available online here.

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2021 annual report early bird medalists by region

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2021 annual transparency report medalists by region

For the second year in a row, regional early bird medals have been awarded to the first three annual transparency reports submitted per region. All 12 awarded States Parties provided their reports well ahead of the deadline of 30 April 2022, setting a good example to all States Parties. Only 35 of 110 States Parties complied with the deadline in 2022.

The submission of an annual report is a legal obligation as well as an important resource to monitor the implementation of the Convention. The implementation status to be presented at the 10MSP will provide a baseline value for the indicators outlined in the Lausanne Action Plan (LAP), which was adopted in September 2021 at the conclusion of the Second Review Conference. Most of the information collected to form this baseline is gathered from Article 7 transparency reports, highlighting the key role these reports play in measuring progress.

As on 30 June, only 52 of the expected 102 annual reports covering the year 2021 had been submitted. States Parties that have not yet done so are reminded to submit their outstanding reports as soon as possible. Eight States Parties still have to submit initial transparency reports due several years ago - Cape Verde (2011), Comoros (2011), Togo (2013), Congo (2015), Guinea (2015), Rwanda (2016), Madagascar (2018) and São Tomé and Príncipe (2020).