

## The Convention on Cluster Munitions Sponsorship Programme

A broad-based and inclusive participation in Meetings of States Parties and Review Conferences of the Convention is of paramount importance. To this end, the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) is entrusted with managing the Sponsorship Programme and providing guidance, input and support to ensure its success. The purpose of the Sponsorship Programme is to facilitate broad and diverse participation of both affected and non-affected States Parties, as well as of all other interested States, to further the Convention's humanitarian and disarmament objectives.

### Background

The Sponsorship Programme was instituted in 2010 following a decision by States Parties at the First Meeting of States Parties. In the Vientiane Action Plan (CCM/MSP/2010/5), States Parties committed under Action #7 to:

*“Support, where appropriate, the efforts of States not Party to the Convention that share the humanitarian concerns caused by cluster munitions, in participating in the formal and informal meetings of the Convention in order to encourage them to become States Parties to the Convention.”*

Further commitments in Actions #54 and #57 emphasized developing mechanisms, such as the Sponsorship Programme, to promote broad and effective participation, particularly from cluster munition-affected developing countries.

From the First Meeting of State Parties to the First Review Conference, the Sponsorship Programme was funded by voluntary contributions to the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery in its capacity as the “Interim Implementation Support Unit”.

Once the ISU was formally established in 2014, in accordance with Article 4 of the “Agreement between the State Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining on the Hosting of the Implementation Support Unit for the Convention” (Hosting Agreement), a distinct Trust Fund for the CCM Sponsorship Programme was established.

### Funding

The Sponsorship Programme has been made possible through the generous contributions of several States Parties, including:

- Australia
- Austria
- Canada
- Croatia
- Germany
- Ireland
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Slovakia
- Switzerland



Additional contributions are encouraged to ensure the sustainability and reach of the Programme.

## Selection Criteria

Selection is based on:

- Priorities set by donors.
- Strategic needs related to the Convention's implementation.
- Emerging challenges and opportunities within the CCM framework.
- The need to promote diverse representation.

This strategic approach ensures that sponsorships go beyond attendance and maximize the impact of each delegate's contributions to the Convention's objectives.

## Sponsorship Coverage

The Sponsorship Programme covers the following for approved participants:

- **Airfare:** A return economy-class ticket for the most direct and economical route between the delegate's country of residence and the meeting location.
- **Accommodation:** Hotel accommodation arranged and paid for directly by the Programme Administrator, covering standard lodging for the meeting duration.
- **Per diem:** A daily allowance to cover meals not provided during the meeting. Limited local transportation may be included, subject to the availability of funds.

Costs beyond the approved travel and per diem allowances (e.g. visa fees, insurance, extended stays and personal expenses) are not covered.

## Achievements

Since the early days of the Convention, over 400 delegates from State Parties, Signatories and States Not Party, across Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe and the Americas have benefited for sponsorships:

- **Asia-Pacific:** Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Palau, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Tajikistan, Thailand, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, and Yemen.
- **Africa:** Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Eswatini, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, The Gambia, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.



- **Americas:** Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, and Uruguay.
- **Europe:** Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, and Serbia.

## **Get involved**

The success of the Sponsorship Programme relies on the continued engagement and generosity of States Parties. By contributing to or benefiting from the Programme, States help ensure broad participation, strengthen international cooperation, and advance the humanitarian goals of the Convention. States interested in supporting or applying for sponsorship are encouraged to contact the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) at: [info@cmconvention.org](mailto:info@cmconvention.org).

## **About the Implementation Support Unit (ISU)**

The Implementation Support Unit (ISU) serves as the permanent secretariat of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), supporting States Parties in the implementation of their obligations and advance the Convention's humanitarian and disarmament goals. Established in 2014, the ISU offers substantive, technical, logistical and coordination support to facilitate universalization, implementation, transparency and compliance efforts. It also manages initiatives such as the Sponsorship Programme to promote broad participation in the Convention's meetings.

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