



CCM INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE CONCEPT NOTE:

Enhancing Implementation of Action 5 of the Dubrovnik Action Plan (International Cooperation and Assistance) up to the 2nd Review Conference

1. Background to Work Plan Context

Article 6 of the Convention states that “Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide technical, material, and financial assistance to States Parties affected by cluster munitions, aimed at the implementation of the obligations of this Convention.” The article applies to the implementation of all obligations of the Convention, with a focus on the clearance of cluster munition remnants, assistance to cluster munition victims, and the destruction of stockpiled cluster munitions.

To guide States Parties effectively in implementing the Convention during the period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2020, at the September 2015 First Review Conference of States Parties to the CCM, States agreed to the five-year Dubrovnik Action Plan (DAP). The DAP elaborates the priorities established by the States Parties through the various actions to be undertaken and the expected key results to be derived from these actions. International cooperation and assistance of the CCM is the DAP’s Action 5 and will provide the primary basis on which this concept note’s activities to achieve the outlined objectives will be derived.

Action 5 of the DAP emphasizes the strengthening of partnerships at all levels, communication of challenges through seeking assistance which is evidence based, enhanced national ownership of CCM obligations and the use of existing tools for cost efficiency and effectiveness. Action 5 also encourages those in position to provide assistance to do so in a constructive manner and to do their best to support Convention implementation.

As of 18 November 2019, 11 out of 67 States Parties that had submitted their 2018 Article 7 Transparency reports (either initial or annual) had requested international cooperation and assistance for completion of one or more obligations under the Convention: Afghanistan, Albania, Chad, Iraq, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Montenegro, Mozambique, Somalia, State of Palestine and Peru. Of these: one (Peru) requested assistance for stockpile destruction obligations; seven (Afghanistan, Chad, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Montenegro & State of Palestine) for survey & clearance obligations; five (Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, Montenegro & Somalia) for risk reduction education; nine (Afghanistan, Albania, Chad, Iraq, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Montenegro, Somalia and State of Palestine) for victim assistance obligations; and one (Mozambique) for assistance in the destruction of munitions [obsolete aerial bombs] not covered by the Convention .

2. Objectives

- Facilitate reinforced joint approaches between thematic areas
- Facilitate better targeting of scarce resources
- Facilitate increased technical and material assistance, transfer of skills and good practices
- Facilitate increased timely implementation of obligations by States Parties
- Support implementation of the Country Coalitions concept introduced by the German Presidency of the 7MSP, and identify synergies with other similar concepts
- Support the President of the Second Review Conference in preparation of/ and during the Second Review Conference.
- Seek to include States not Party as potential donors in cooperation under the Country Coalitions concept

3. Activities

1. Montenegro and the Netherlands will work together with their fellow Coordinators on the Committee to identify priority areas and target States for cooperation and assistance, and possible joint activities, including informal meetings and side events, directly engaging affected and donor states, to enable exchanges of information on needs and priorities, established practices and expertise, and the possible formation of Country Coalitions.
2. Montenegro and the Netherlands will meet regularly with the ISU to seek its perspectives and advice on possible priorities in the area of cooperation and assistance in 2019 - 2020.
3. Montenegro and the Netherlands will work with the Coordinator for Transparency Reporting to encourage States parties to enhance the quality of information in their article 7 reports. As Coordinators, they will highlight the importance of transparency reporting as it is one of the fundamental tools available to the CCM community to identify implementation challenges and needs. They will also support affected States Parties requesting assistance through their Article 7 reports to implement their obligations by linking or relaying specific requests to traditional donors and organizations with relevant expertise.
4. Montenegro and the Netherlands will work in order to enhance cooperation under the "Country Coalitions" concept with an aim to improve coordination between donor states in providing assistance to individual affected states seeking international assistance for implementation of obligations under Article 3 or Article 4. Montenegro and the Netherlands will work with the Committee on International Cooperation and Assistance of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention to maximise synergies in implementation of the Individualised Approach and the Country Coalitions concept.
5. Montenegro and the Netherlands will identify and involve key partners (civil society, international organizations, operators etc.) with specific expertise to support target

States Parties and relevant thematic areas through workshops, field visits/assessments, trainings, developing of new tools etc.

6. Use social media platforms, including the Convention's website, to promote good practices with regards to international cooperation and assistance and timely implementation of obligations.
7. Montenegro and the Netherlands will work, as part of the *Analysis groups* for Article 3 and Article 4 extension requests, together with the Coordinators on Stockpile Destruction and Retention and the Coordinators on Clearance and Risk Reduction Education respectively, in support of the President to prepare the reports on the extension requests received.
8. Montenegro and the Netherlands will provide support to the President of the Second Review Conference including through reviewing the DAP relevant to the work of the Coordinators, supporting the development of the Action Plan for the 2020-2025 period and other activities in support of the Second Review Conference.

4. Expected Outputs (by 2RC)

- States Parties seeking assistance are supported by the coordinators to have access to the necessary resources to fulfil their obligations under the Convention, preferably ahead of deadlines
- States Parties provide evidence-based needs requests
- States Parties or other actors respond constructively to requests for assistance
- States Parties that expect not to meet their deadlines will be assisted with their extension requests, including the mobilisation of necessary resources needed for the development and implementation of such requests
- Develop a guidance note in collaboration with relevant partners on the cooperation under the Country Coalition Concept for States Parties with remaining obligations under Article 3 and/or Article 4 which intend to seek international assistance
- Explore synergies with concepts similar to the Country Coalition, such as the Individualised Approach under the Anti-Personnel Landmine Convention.

5. Estimated Budget

Limited costs, depending on the strategy adopted.

6. Strategy Implementers

- Montenegro - Coordinator on International cooperation and assistance
- The Netherlands - Coordinator on International cooperation and assistance
- CCM Implementation Support Unit

7. Potential Implementing Partners

- Thematic Coordinators
- States Parties and signatory States that have obligations under any of the key CCM including Articles 3, 4, 5, 7 and 9
- Donor/Partner States
- International NGOs / operators
- Aid agencies
- Civil society

8. Timeline of the Activities since the 9th MSP

- November 2019 Meeting with ISU to discuss priorities
- January 2020 Liaise with Coordinators on Clearance and Risk Reduction, Stockpile Destruction and Retention, and Victim Assistance, to:
 - exchange information on States which have requested assistance and additional States with pressing obligations which fellow Coordinators consider might be contacted to ask if they require assistance, and
 - Follow up with States that have pressing obligations and upcoming deadlines in order to support their requests for assistance and/or extension.
- February 2020 Utilise the 23rd International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors in Geneva to reach out to key countries and follow up on the activities of last year, not excluding the possibility of organising one more country coalition meeting.
- March/June 2020 Assist the President of the Second Review Conference in the run up to the first preparatory meeting on 8 June 2020.
- 2020 Follow-up on outcomes of informal meetings
- June 2020 Preparation of 2RC Progress Report
- June/September 2020 Assist the President of the Second Review Conference in the run up to the second preparatory meeting on 4 September 2020.
- 2020 Preparation of the 2RC Action Plan 2020-2025