

International Cooperation and Assistance in the context of the Convention on Cluster Munitions

Contacts

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Article 6

Article 6 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) 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. Such assistance may be provided, *inter alia*, through the United Nations system, international, regional or national organizations or institutions, non-governmental organizations or institutions, or on a bilateral basis”

This Article applies to the **implementation of all obligations** of the Convention, with a particular focus on the destruction of stockpiled cluster munitions, the clearance of cluster munitions remnants, assistance to victims, transparency reporting and the adoption of national legislation.

The Dubrovnik Action Plan



To guide States Parties in effectively 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).

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 5.5 also encourages those in a position to provide assistance to do so and to respond constructively to such requests thereby facilitating the necessary support for Convention implementation.

How to request assistance

States Parties requiring international cooperation and assistance are encouraged to **share clear information on challenges and requirements** for the implementation of their national CCM obligations through the timely submission of national **Article 7 reports** and/or at **formal and informal Meetings** of the Convention. Many States that regularly do so have benefited from enhanced partnerships, cooperation and assistance to meet their CCM obligations.

Furthermore, States Parties requiring support could directly contact the current CCM Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance, the Netherlands and Peru, as well as the Implementation Support Unit of the CCM (ISU-CCM).

The broader community of actors supporting the work of the Convention, including the United Nations, the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Mine Action NGOs and other stakeholders also provide an extensive range of assistance which can be facilitated by the Coordinators and the ISU.

Existing mechanisms and available resources

States with obligations are encouraged to establish a **Country Coalition** under their lead to support in the implementation of their CCM commitments. This approach offers an effective framework for ensuring national ownership and long-term commitment by donors/partners and is adapted to the particular needs of the State needing assistance. To date, 3 States with obligations are leading Country Coalition initiatives with the financial support of donor States and the technical assistance of international NGOs.

Multiple resources for States such as a ratification/accession toolkit, model legislation, reporting templates and other CCM related publications can be found on the Convention’s website: www.clusterconvention.org