



CCM Thematic Working Group on Clearance and Risk Education

CONCEPT NOTE 2021 -2022

Enhancing Implementation of Article 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions up to the 10th Meeting of States Parties (10MSP)

1. Background to Work Plan Context

Article 4 paragraph 1 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), states that “*each State Party undertakes to clear and destroy, or ensure the clearance and destruction of, cluster munition remnants located in cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control...*”. In fulfilling their obligations under paragraph 1, States Parties are required, according to paragraph 2, to survey, assess and record the threat, as well as assess and prioritize needs in terms of marking, protection of civilians, clearance and destruction and take steps to mobilize resources and develop a national plan to carry out these activities. This includes to ensure that all cluster munition contaminated areas under their jurisdiction or control are perimeter-marked, monitored, and protected by fencing or other means to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians. Additionally, States Parties are required to conduct risk reduction education to ensure awareness among civilians living in or around cluster munition contaminated areas of the risks posed by such remnants.

To guide States Parties in the effective implementation of the Convention during the period up to the Third Review Conference of States Parties to the CCM (3RC) scheduled for 2026, the Second Review Conference (2RC), States agreed to the five-year Lausanne Action Plan (LAP). Building on the Dubrovnik Action Plan (DAP), the Lausanne Action Plan aims to achieve significant and sustainable progress towards the universalization and implementation of the Convention for the period 2021-26. It lays out concrete actions that States Parties will take to that end.

Accordingly, States Parties will implement **Lausanne Action Plan (LAP) Actions 18 to 30** which details the relevant activities to be undertaken to fully implement Article 4 of the Convention. These Actions will provide the primary basis on which the activities detailed in this concept note will be derived to achieve the outlined objectives.

2. Objectives

- a. Facilitate an increased number of States Parties with obligations under Article 4 that are on track to completion with a view – where feasible – to avoid extension requests.
- b. Facilitate extension requests of a high quality in addition to being submitted and considered in a timely manner
- c. Facilitate declarations of completion of a high quality
- d. Facilitate increased reporting on the indicators associated with LAP Actions 18 to 30
- e. Identify and facilitate the establishment of Country Coalitions for states parties that may need assistance to comply with Article 4 obligations

3. Activities

- a. Guyana and Sweden will follow-up with States Parties with Article 4 obligations particularly those with imminent deadlines in 2022 and 2023
- b. The Coordinators will lead and participate in the work of the Analysis Group that considers Article 4 extension requests
- c. Through written communication remind States Parties with Article 4 obligations to include relevant information as required by LAP Actions 18 to 30 in their annual Article 7 reports.
- d. Collaborate with the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) to seek its perspectives and advice on possible additional actions to undertake in area of clearance and risk education

4. Expected Outputs by 10MSP

- a. States Parties with Art.4 obligations have reported in accordance with Actions 18 to 30 of the Lausanne Action Plan, including taking into account environmental impacts and concerns in accordance with LAP action 21.
- b. States Parties that expect not to meet their Art. 4 deadlines have submitted a high-quality request for an extension, including the inclusion of plans on risk education therein, in a timely manner
- c. States Parties requiring assistance with the mobilisation of necessary resources needed for the development and implementation of work plans contained in extension requests have been identified and linked to the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance.

5. Estimated Budget

- ISU grant for Country Coalition meetings

6. Strategy Implementers

Guyana and Sweden as the Coordinator on Clearance and Risk Education

7. Potential Partners

- Thematic Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance
- CCM Implementation Support Unit
- Donor/Partner States
- International NGOs/operators
- Civil society

8. Timeline of the Activities up the 10th MSP

Fourth Quarter of 2021

- Follow up with States that have impending Art. 4 in order to support their requests for assistance and/or extension.
- Utilise intersessional meetings of the cluster convention and meetings of other disarmament instruments to reach out to identified States Parties countries to get updates on Art. 4 implementation progress.
- Meeting with ISU to discuss Article 4 priorities

First Quarter of 2022

- Send written communication to remind relevant States Parties on information to be included in Article 7 reports
- Coordinate with the Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance regarding possible joint Country Coalition event for Art. 4 States
- Follow-up on outcomes of informal meetings

Second Quarter of 2022

- Prepare and submit thematic input for the 10MSP Progress Report
- Follow-up on outcomes of informal meetings

Third Quarter of 2022

- Report activities to the 10MSP
- Follow-up on outcomes of informal meetings