

CONCEPT NOTE ON THE UNIVERSALIZATION OF THE CCM Enhancing Implementation of the Lausanne Action Plan

Background to Work Plan Context

The 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) is a legally binding international treaty that comprehensively prohibits the use, production, stockpiling and transfer of cluster munitions. Cluster Munitions are unacceptable for two main reasons:

- They have wide area effects and are unable to distinguish between civilians and combatants; and
- Their use leaves behind large numbers of unexploded ordnance which continue to kill, injure, and maim civilians, obstruct economic and social development for years after use.

To date 123 States have joined the Convention of which 110 are States Parties, and the remaining 13 are signatories that have yet to ratify. To guide States Parties effectively implement the Convention in the period 2021-2026, at Second Review Conference of States Party to the CCM, States agreed to the Lausanne Action Plan (LAP).

The LAP 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. Universalization of the CCM is the LAP's Actions 10 and 11 and will provide the primary basis on which this concept note's activity to achieve the outlined objectives will be derived.

Actions 10 and 11 of the LAP aims to increase adherence with the Convention, promote the universalization of the Convention and reinforce the norms being established by the Convention.

At the Second Review Conference, States Parties endorsed the paper *Ways Forward in Universalization*, which maps the challenges to further ratifications and outlines a strategy based on with actionable points.

Objectives

- Increased number of States Parties by the 10th MSP.
- Increased stigmatization of the use of cluster munitions; and
- Increased awareness of the Convention.

Activities

- Hold bilateral exchanges with the Permanent Missions in Geneva of the States that have not yet ratified the CCM and engage with those States during other disarmament meetings.
- Facilitate possible side events or speaking slots on CCM during other disarmament meetings held in Geneva.
- Identification of States which could potentially accede to the Convention and encourage them to do so by the 10MSP.
- Outreach through bilateral meetings in capitals, through our Embassies, and Regional Organizations of which we are members.
- Include CCM on the Agenda of relevant meetings and workshops at regional level to encourage CCM ratification/accession.
- Continue the activities of the Informal Working Group on CCM universalization with States Parties, CMC, ICRC and other interested stakeholders, taking into account that universalization is a joint effort.
- Provide support for the hosting of a military-to-military dialogue by inviting interested States Parties to exchange lessons learned and experiences with Signatory States and Non-States Parties in order to move towards ratification/accession to the CCM.
- In coordination with the Presidency and the ISU, assist in facilitation of regional workshops to promote ratification/accession to the CCM.
- Collaborate with the ICRC on the promotion of its CCM Ratification Toolkit that describes generic procedures and steps towards the submission of ratification or acceptance instruments and also contains model instruments of adherence to be filed with the depository.
- Work with the Thematic Coordinator on National Implementation Measures on the provision of model legislation for possible use by small States that do not possess cluster munitions and have not been contaminated by them as well as on the broadcasting of the video created by the Coordinator on NIM to promote the implementation of NIM.
- Collaborate with CMC and the ICRC in their universalization efforts.

Target States

All signatory states, with particular emphasis on the “low-hanging fruit” by the Ways Forward paper as follows:

- States that, at the First Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations, vote in favour of the resolution on the “Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions” that are not yet States Parties to the Convention
- States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention that have not yet acceded to the CCM.
- Signatory States that have yet to complete their ratification processes.
- States Not Party to the Convention but have issued unilateral declarations in support of the Convention’ norms or have voluntarily submitted transparency reports or have taken interim steps.

Expected Outputs

- At least three new States Parties by the 10MSP.

Estimated Budget

- Limited costs, depending on the strategy adopted.

Strategy Implementers

- Philippines - Coordinator on Universalization;
- Spain - Coordinator on Universalization;
- New Zealand - Thematic Coordinator on National Implementation Measures Coordinator on National Implementation;
- ICRC;
- CMC;
- With the technical support of the CCM - Implementation Support Unit.

Implementing Partners

- Thematic Coordinators;
- Civil Society; and
- Other international stakeholder organisations.

Timeline of Activities

November 2021:

- ✓ Meet with ISU and 10MSP Presidency to plan the work ahead for CCM universalization activities.

December 2021 – August 2022:

- ✓ Focus on target States, according to the strategy agreed with the 10MSP Presidency.
- ✓ Assist in facilitation of regional workshops to promote ratification/accession to the CCM.
- ✓ Preparation of the 10MSP Progress Report to submit by 21 June 2020.
- ✓ Bilateral exchanges with the Permanent Missions in Geneva of the States that have not yet ratified the CCM.
- ✓ Outreach through Capital and Embassies.
- ✓ Facilitate side events or speaking slots at Geneva disarmament meetings.
- ✓ Convene the Informal Working Group on Universalization during the Intersessional meeting in order to take stock of progress made during the intersessional period.
- ✓ Outreach activities during the Intersessional Meeting of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention targeting States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention that have not yet acceded to the CCM.
- ✓ Inclusion of CCM in regional meetings and workshops.
- ✓ Collaborate with the ICRC on the promotion of its CCM Ratification Toolkit.
- ✓ Work with the Thematic Coordinator on National Implementation Measures on the provision of model legislation.
- ✓ Collaborate with CMC and the ICRC in their universalization efforts.

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