



CONCEPT NOTE ON THE UNIVERSALIZATION OF THE CCM

Enhancing Implementation of Action 1 of the Dubrovnik Action Plan (Universalization) up to the 9th Meeting of States Parties (9MSP)

1. 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 120 States have joined the Convention of which 104 are States Parties, and the remaining 16 are signatories that have yet to ratify. To guide States Parties effectively implement the Convention during the period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2020, at the September 2015 First Review Conference of States Party 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. Universalization of the CCM is the DAP's Action 1 and will provide the primary basis on which this concept note's activities to achieve the outlined objectives will be derived.

Action 1 of the DAP aims to increase adherence with the Convention, promote the universalization of the Convention and reinforce the norms being established by the Convention. The DAP also aspires to have increased the number of States Parties to 130 by the 2nd Review Conference of the Convention scheduled for 2020.

2. Objectives

- Increased number of States Parties by the 9MSP;
- Increased stigmatization of the use of cluster munitions; and
- Increased awareness of the Convention.

3. Activities

- Hold bilateral exchanges with the Permanent Missions in Geneva of the States that has not yet ratified the CCM and engage with those States during the disarmament meetings;
- Identification of States which could potentially accede to the Convention;
- Outreach through bilateral meetings in the Capitals, through our Embassies and alongside meetings;
- Include CCM on the Agenda of relevant meetings and workshops at regional level;
- Develop, in collaboration with the ISU and CMC, a checklist of possible frequently asked questions that address key concerns and overarching issues related to ratification/accession, including financial contributions, regional security, clearance deadlines, reporting, international cooperation and assistance, and propose possible solutions. This document could provide a sound basis for CCM outreach efforts and would be made available on the Convention's website;
- Establish a 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 as a platform for exchange lessons learned and experiences in order to move towards ratification/accession to the CCM;
- Provide support for 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;
- Collaborate with CMC and the ICRC in their universalization efforts.

4. Target States

- **Main Target:**

- ✓ Signatory States of the CCM: Angola, Central African Republic, Gambia, Haiti, Jamaica, Nigeria, Philippines, Tanzania.

- **Others:**

- ✓ States that vote in favour of the resolution on the “Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions” that are not yet States Parties to the Convention; and
- ✓ States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention that has not yet ratified the CCM: Algeria, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Niue, Saint Lucia, South Sudan, Sudan, Suriname, and Zimbabwe.

5. Expected Outputs

- At least four new States Parties by the 9MSP.

6. Estimated Budget

- Limited costs, depending on the strategy adopted.

7. Strategy Implementers

- Chile - Coordinator on Universalization;
- Panama - 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.

8. Implementing Partners

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

9. Timeline of Activities

- **October 2018:**
 - ✓ Meet with ISU the work ahead for CCM universalization (held on 16 October 2018).
- **November 2018:**
 - ✓ Focus on target States (two countries per coordinator).
- **December 2018:**
 - ✓ Establish a Working Group on CCM universalization and determine the working methods.
 - ✓ Prepare in collaboration with the ISU and CMC a draft of a checklist of possible FAQ.
- **January 2019:**
 - ✓ Finish the first draft of the checklist of possible FAQ.
 - ✓ First informal meeting of the Working Group on CCM universalization.
- **2019 (dates to be confirmed):**
 - ✓ Provide support for the hosting of a military to military dialogue.
 - ✓ Provide support for regional workshops to promote ratification/accession to the CCM.
 - ✓ Preparation of the 9MSP Progress Report to submit by 21 June 2019.
- **Up to 9MSP:**
 - ✓ Bilateral exchanges with the Permanent Missions in Geneva of the States that has not yet ratified the CCM.
 - ✓ Outreach through Capital and Embassies.
 - ✓ 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.