



CCM INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE CONCEPT NOTE

Enhancing Implementation of Action 5 of the Dubrovnik Action Plan (International Cooperation and Assistance) up to the 7th Meeting of States Parties (7MSP)

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.

Out of 12 States Parties that have reported or been reported to be affected by cluster munitions, nine States parties have requested international cooperation and assistance through their 2015 annual transparency report (Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Croatia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Mauritania, Mozambique and Iraq).

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

3. Activities

1. Australia and Iraq will work together with our fellow Coordinators on the Committee to identify priority areas and target States for cooperation and assistance, and possible joint activities, including side events directly engaging affected and donor states to enable exchanges of information on needs and priorities, established practices and expertise, in order to facilitate the implementation of our assignment as Coordinators for the CCM.
2. Australia and Iraq will meet regularly with the ISU to seek its perspectives and advice on possible priorities in the area of cooperation and assistance in 2016-17.
3. In April 2016 Australia and Iraq, in performing to our mandate on matters pertaining to International Cooperation and Assistance, sent 17 letters to traditional donor States and organizations requesting them to provide information on their priorities so as to enhance partnerships between States parties in need of assistance and those States in a position to provide the required assistance. Unfortunately we did not receive any response. Australia and Iraq will reactivate this initiative, and work together to secure greater engagement of States Parties on this issue.
4. Australia and Iraq will work with Reporting Committee to encourage states parties to enhance the quality of information in their article 7 reports. As Coordinators, we 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, and 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.
5. Australia and Iraq will continue working with the Coordinators on Victim Assistance to finalize the Guidance on an Integrated Approach to Victim Assistance and launch this Guidance in a side-event in the margins of the 15th MSP of the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention to be held in Chile from 28 of November to 1 December 2016, and will work to have the final Guidance included as a document of 7th MSP.
6. Australia and Iraq 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, making of new tools etc.

7. 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.

4. Expected Outputs (by 7MSP)

- At least 5 identified States Parties seeking assistance have received or are in the process of receiving the requested support
- At least 4 States Parties provide evidence-based needs requests
- At least 2 States Parties exchange information on good and cost effective clearance, stockpile destruction or integrated victim assistance practices
- At least 5 States Parties with the capacity to do so respond constructively to requests for assistance
- At least 1 State Party reports to have the necessary resources to fulfil its obligations under the Convention ahead of its deadline to exhibit ownership

5. Estimated Budget

Limited costs, depending on the strategy adopted.

6. Strategy Implementers

- Iraq - Coordinator on International cooperation and assistance
- Australia - Coordinator on International cooperation and assistance
- CCM Implementation Support Unit

7. Potential Implementing Partners

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

8. Timeline of the Activities

- October 2016 Commence regular meetings with ISU (first meeting with ISU held on 11 October)
- November 2016 Meet with UNMAS and GICHD to discuss how to better achieve the objectives of the Convention as well as how to enhance partnerships with related organisations and civil society
- November 2016 Commence regular meetings 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 which fellow Coordinators consider might be asked if they require assistance, and
 - discuss the possibility of a possible joint side-event at the 2017 Mine Action Directors meeting to engage traditional donors together with these States and provide an opportunity for exchanges of information on needs and priorities, established practices and expertise
- December 2016 Launch Guidance on an Integrated Approach to Victim Assistance in a side-event in the margins of the 15th MSP of the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention (28 Nov – 2 Dec)
- January 2017 Issue letters to:
 - affected States inviting them to possible joint side-event at 2017 Mine Action Directors meeting
 - traditional donor States requesting information on their priorities and inviting them to possible joint side-event at 2017 Mine Action Directors meeting to share these
- February 2017 Possible joint side-event at 2017 Mine Action Directors meeting
- March-May 2017 Follow-up on outcomes of joint side-event (responses to evidence-based requests)
- June-August 2017 Preparation of 7MSP Progress Report