



CCM INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE CONCEPT NOTE:

Enhancing Implementation of Action 5 of the Dubrovnik Action Plan (International Cooperation and Assistance) up to the 8th Meeting of States Parties (8MSP)

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.

Thirteen States Parties requested international cooperation and assistance for completion of one or more obligations under the Convention in their 2016 Article 7 transparency reports and official statements: Afghanistan, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Iraq, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Montenegro, Niger, and Peru. Two requested assistance for storage and stockpile destruction obligations; five for clearance obligations; three for risk reduction education; five for victim assistance obligations; and one for the development of specific national legislation.

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.
- Support implementation of the Country Coalitions concept introduced by the German Presidency of the 7MSP.

3. Activities

- Australia and Peru 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 informal meetings and side events, directly engaging affected and donor states, to enable exchanges of information on needs and priorities, established practices and expertise, and the possible formation of Country Coalitions.
- Australia and Peru will meet regularly with the ISU to seek its perspectives and advice on possible priorities in the area of cooperation and assistance in 2017-18.
- Australia and Peru will work with the Coordinator for Transparency Reporting 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.
- Australia and Peru will work with the Committee on International Cooperation and Assistance for the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention to maximise synergies in implementation of the Individualised Approach and the Country Coalitions concept.
- Australia and Peru 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.
- 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 8MSP)

- One informal meeting with affected States Parties/States Parties with pressing obligations to discuss challenges, needs, and good and cost effective clearance, stockpile destruction or integrated victim assistance practices.
- One informal meeting with donor/partner States to discuss priorities for assistance.
- One informal meeting between affected States Parties/States Parties with pressing obligations and donor States Parties to discuss possible partnerships.
- Increased number of States Parties seeking assistance have received or are in the process of receiving the requested support.
- Increased number of States Parties provide evidence-based needs requests.
- Increased number of States Parties or other actors respond constructively to requests for assistance.
- Increased number of State Parties report to have the necessary resources to fulfil obligations under the Convention ahead of deadlines.

5. Estimated Budget

Limited costs, depending on the strategy adopted.

6. Strategy Implementers

- Peru - 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/Partner States
- International NGOs / operators
- Aid agencies
- Civil society

8. Timeline of the Activities

- **November 2017**
 - 6 November: meet with ISU to discuss priorities
 - 24 November: first informal meeting with States which have requested assistance and additional States with pressing obligations under the Convention

- **December 2017**
 - Liaise 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 with pressing obligations which fellow Coordinators consider might be asked if they require assistance; and
 - discuss the possibility of further informal meetings in 2018 to engage these States, traditional donor/partner States, and the two groups together

- **2018 (dates tbc)**
 - Further informal affected State, donor/partner State and joint informal Meetings
 - Follow-up on outcomes of informal meetings
 - Preparation of 8MSP Progress Report