



CONCEPT NOTE ON THE UNIVERSALIZATION OF THE CCM

Enhancing Implementation of Action 1 of the Dubrovnik Action Plan (Universalization) up to the 7th Meeting of States Parties (7MSP)

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: - firstly, they have wide area effects and are unable to distinguish between civilians and combatants and secondly, 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.

As of 3 October 2016, 119 States have joined the Convention of which 100 are States Parties, and the remaining 19 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 7MSP;
- Increased stigmatization of the use of cluster munitions; and
- Increased awareness of the Convention.

3. Strategy, Activities and Timelines

- a) As a general principle, **a close coordination of efforts between the Chair and the coordinators will be sought.**
- b) **Building on the efforts of previous CCM Presidencies and coordinators towards Non States Parties which could potentially accede to the Convention:**
- Identification of potential new States parties (target at least 2 countries per region) by 30th November, 2016;
 - General demarches or tailored (joint) missions to capitals ;
 - Outreach to Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Parliamentarians by March 2017 through letters by the chair and the coordinators for universalization ;
 - Interact through bilateral meetings (in capitals, Geneva, alongside meetings); Include CCM on the Agenda of all relevant meetings (national, bilateral, regional, international) up to the 7MSP;
 - Host at least 1 regional universalization workshop to promote ratification/accession (S.E Asia or the Caucasus) by 31st March 2017; Identify obstacles to ratification/accession in target states and propose solutions 31st December, 2016
 - Development of a toolkit that describes generic procedures and steps towards the submission of ratification or acceptance instruments;
 - Encouragement to develop and make public an action plan of steps to take to ratify/accede ;
 - Provision of model legislation and respective practical assistance for Non-States Parties requiring assistance prior to accession ;
- c) **Entering into a structured dialogue with specific Non States Parties with reservations concerning the Convention, especially major producers.** This dialogue could build on identified steps demonstrating the positive intentions of states towards the humanitarian goals of the Convention, including steps toward decreasing the potential humanitarian harm of cluster munitions (such as stockpile destruction). As an example, some countries have already enforced a moratorium on the use of all cluster munitions, a moratorium on the production and export of cluster munitions or have declared imitations on the possible use of cluster munitions to territorial defense. They could be encouraged to provide voluntary information on these measures, as a first step towards accession. The integration of such measures to a plan of accession or a general commitment to accede to the convention will be sought.

- d) Universalization is **a joint effort of all States parties to the CCM**: in addition of the efforts of the President and Coordination Committee, the involvement of all States Parties is necessary. In particular, States Parties should seek all opportunities to make statements during international and bilateral meetings. The increase awareness of the CCM could be reached through the use of existing social media platforms up to the 7MSP.
- e) Collaborate with national and international civil society to encourage ratification/accession - up to the 7MSP.

4. Expected Outputs

- At least eight (8) new States Parties by the 7MSP
- More CCM states have spoken out on the use of cluster munitions by the 7MSP
- More CCM States have adhered to the norms of the Convention by the 7MSP

5. Estimated Budget

- Approximately CHF 29,336 for the regional workshop
- Minimal cost and all expenses will be absorbed

6. Strategy Implementers

Zambia - Coordinator on Universalization
France - Coordinator on Universalization
Germany – President of the CCM 7MSP
Coordinators on International Cooperation and Assistance
CCM - Implementation Support Unit

7. Potential Implementing Partners

- Civil Society
- Other international stakeholder organisations