Highlights

(1st April – 30th June)

SAVE THE DATES: UPCOMING 2020 CCM MEETINGS
The Second Preparatory Meeting for the Second Review Conference (2RC) will be held on 4 September 2020 in Geneva and the Review Conference is scheduled to take place on 23–27 November 2020 in Lausanne. Documents and information on these Meetings will be made available on the UNODA and CCM websites, which are regularly updated.

Informal virtual briefing
2RC President, Ambassador Félix Baumann of Switzerland, hosted an informal virtual briefing on 8 June 2020 to update the CCM community on how the First Preparatory Meeting would be convened and the preparation of the three main 2RC documents—the Review Document, the new Action Plan and the Political Declaration. He also announced that the 2RC in November would be held at the SwissTech Convention Center in Lausanne and that a public photo exhibition to showcase the impact of cluster munitions would take place from August to November 2020 in several cities around Switzerland in the lead up to the Review Conference.

First 2RC Preparatory Meeting

The First Preparatory Meeting of the 2RC took place at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. Due to COVID-19-related restrictions, the Meeting that was originally scheduled for 8 June 2020 was postponed to 29 June, as agreed upon by States Parties. The Meeting was held in line with Federal recommended precautionary measures which limited the number of participants per delegation and required the wearing of face masks in the conference room. It was webcast live in all six UN official languages for the benefit of those not able to be present in the room.

During the full-day Meeting, there was an extensive exchange on the Review Document and Lausanne Action Plan (LAP). Other matters discussed were implementation support, assessed contributions to the 2RC, updates on upcoming CCM Meetings of the year and the CCM Sponsorship Programme.
Coordination Committee meets virtually

As a result of nationwide social distancing measures, the Coordination Committee under the Swiss Presidency met virtually on Zoom in April and May 2020. While some of the President and Coordinators’ plans were disrupted by the pandemic, the majority of the scheduled work for this period has been carried out as planned. It is hoped that the regional universalization workshops that had been postponed would still be able to take place later this year.

Virtual presentations on the CCM

The ISU participated in two virtual presentations on the Convention during the quarter under review. The first was the “Introduction to Mine Action” webinar for donor representatives on 28 April 2020 organized by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). The second was a lecture given by ISU Director to new cadets of the Ecuadorian War Academy Advanced English course on 12 May 2020.

Universalization Working Group

CCM Universalization Coordinators, Chile and the Philippines, established the Informal Working Group on CCM universalization on 25 June 2020 that consists of the Swiss Presidency, Australia, Italy, Mexico, the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the ISU. The working group is developing a roadmap as a guideline on universalization activities to promote the Convention’s universalization in the immediate term as well as in the longer term. The three objectives of the roadmap are to support CCM universalization efforts, to generate synergies and to streamline strategies.

Update on deadline extension requests to be considered at 2RC

The Article 3 extension request analysis process continued during the quarter under review and was concluded for Bulgaria and Peru. The Analysis Group report of these two requests are currently being finalized. The Article 4 Analysis Group also continued engagement on and analysis of the deadline extension request of Chile.

All official submissions related to the extension requests can be found on the CCM website.