Established in May 2015, the ISU’s main objective is to support States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on the implementation of the Convention.

More specifically, the ISU is mandated by States Parties to undertake the following tasks in accordance with the decision taken by States Parties at the Second Review Conference pursuant to the priorities established through the Lausanne Action Plan:

- Provide technical support and advice to the Presidency in all aspects of its role and mandate in leading the work of the Convention;
- Provide support to all States Parties through the Convention’s implementation machinery;
- Provide advice and technical support to individual States Parties including through the development of a resource base of relevant expertise and practices on the implementation of the Convention;
- Prepare for and keep records of formal and informal meetings under the Convention and other relevant knowledge products, expertise and information pertaining to the implementation of the Convention;
- Facilitate communication amongst States Parties and other relevant actors, cooperate and coordinate amongst these;
- Maintain public relations including efforts to promote universalization and other work of the Convention;
- Support the CCM Sponsorship Programme;
- Serve as an interface between the States Parties and the international community on issues related to the implementation of the CCM.

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WHAT is the CCM

The Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) is a Humanitarian Disarmament Treaty that contains:

- **Preventive measures** including the prohibition of the use, development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention and transfer of cluster munitions;

- **Remedial measures** such as the destruction of stockpiles, clearance of cluster munitions and the provision of assistance to victims;

- **Cooperative approaches** to implementation through multi-level partnerships; and

- **Transparency measures** in reporting on the status and progress of implementation.

Adopted on 30 May 2008 in Dublin, Ireland and signed on 3 December 2008 in Oslo, Norway, the Convention on Cluster Munitions entered into force on 1 August 2010. To date, a total of 124 states have joined the Convention, as 112 States Parties and 12 Signatories.

WHY the CCM

The CCM was adopted as a result of international concern about the humanitarian effects of cluster munitions, particularly on civilian populations. Cluster munitions cause 'unacceptable harm’ to civilians because of:

- Their **wide-area effect** means an increased likelihood of civilian victims;

- Their **high failure rate** means that hundreds of bomblets become lethal devices; and

- The significant adverse **socio-economic consequences** that hinder sustainable development.

Key obligations

By ratifying or acceding to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, States Parties commit to:

- Never use, produce, stockpile or transfer cluster munitions;

- Destroy existing stockpiles in eight years;

- Clear contaminated land in ten years;

- Provide comprehensive assistance to victims;

- Provide technical, material and financial assistance to other States Parties;

- Undertake transparency measures;

- Adopt national implementation measures; and

- Promote universal adherence to the Convention.

The Lausanne Action Plan

The Second Review Conference adopted the Lausanne Action Plan (LAP) in September 2021 to help States Parties achieve significant and sustainable progress towards the universalization and implementation of the Convention for the period 2021-2026.

The LAP lays out concrete actions for States Parties to undertake and corresponding indicators to monitor progress and identify challenges in their implementation.

Implementation, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms

Assisted by the Implementation Support Unit (ISU), the Coordination Committee is composed of the President, President-Designate, the outgoing President and the thematic Coordinators.

The Coordination Committee may call upon others to assist with its work as appropriate. It maintains an invitation to the International Committee of the Red Cross, the United Nations and the Cluster Munition Coalition to participate in the Coordination Committee as observers. The Committee usually meets monthly.