

CCM Transparency Coordinator Work Plan for 2023 - 2024

Australia

Background and workplan context

Transparency Reporting is an obligation under the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) and a vital indicator of the overall health of the Convention. It establishes a benchmark against which implementation progress is measured and evaluated. Transparency Reports are also a useful tool to facilitate international cooperation and assistance.

In accordance with **Article 7 of the CCM**, States Parties are obliged to report to the United Nations Secretary-General no later than 180 days after entry into force of the Convention through an initial transparency report and on an annual basis by 30 April each year thereafter. Reports are sent to the UN Secretary-General via email, cc to the CCM ISU.

States Parties committed to several actions regarding transparency reporting under the **Lausanne Action Plan** (LAP), reflected in Actions 43 to 46. Among other things, the LAP urges States Parties to:

- Provide their initial and annual transparency reports within the deadlines set in Article 7 of the Convention
- Seek assistance with reporting where needed and for partners in a position to do so to lend assistance
- Develop and endorse an amended reporting form.

Recent trends in reporting

The 11MSP in September 2023 noted a decline in annual reporting in 2023. Only 58 of the 112 States Parties to the Convention submitted annual reports covering activities in 2022, of which 36 States Parties submitted by the 30 April deadline.

Seven States Parties have not submitted their initial transparency reports, of which several are now more than a decade late.

An adapted reporting form was adopted at the CCM 11th Meeting of States Parties in September 2023 and contained in [CM/MSP/2023/7](#). It included the introduction of a new Form J on gender and diversity of populations.

Objectives

1. Promote increased rates of submission of annual reports.
2. Engage with remaining States Parties that have overdue initial transparency reports with the aim to increase the submission of initial reports ahead of the 12MSP
3. Encourage States Parties to report on their efforts to mainstream gender and diversity considerations.

Strategy

- Follow up with states that are yet to submit initial transparency reports through bilateral outreach and with others including the African Union
- Explore ideas for streamlining reporting, including exploring creation of an online reporting tool
- Showcase examples of good practice by States Parties reporting on their efforts to mainstream gender and diversity considerations

- Encourage the Convention’s signatories (as well as States not Party) to provide voluntary transparency reports to demonstrate their commitment to transparency on cluster munitions.

Expected outputs

- Increased rate of submission of annual reports
- Progress on reporting ahead of the 12MSP by one or more of the States Parties yet to submit initial transparency reports
- Increased reporting on gender and diversity.

Estimated budget

- Limited direct cost.

Strategy Collaborators

- Mexico, 12th Presidency of the CCM
- CCM Implementation Support Unit
- Thematic coordinators
- The Gambia, former Coordinator for Transparency Measures 2022-2023.

Other strategic partners

- States Parties to the Convention especially delegations of the target States Parties
- UNODA
- National reporting focal points
- African Union
- Civil society including International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munitions Coalition.