

WORK PLAN ON THE UNIVERSALIZATION OF THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS (CCM) 2023 -2024

Enhancing Implementation of the Lausanne Action Plan

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:

- They have wide area effects and are unable to distinguish between civilians and combatants; and
- 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.

To date there are 112 States Parties, and 12 Signatories States. To guide States Parties to effectively implement the Convention in the period 2021-2026, at the Second Review Conference of States Parties to the CCM, States agreed to the Lausanne Action Plan (LAP).

The LAP 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. Actions 10 and 11 of LAP are related to the universalization of the CCM and will provide the primary basis from which activities of this concept note will be derived.

Additionally, at the Second Review Conference, States Parties endorsed the paper *Ways Forward in Universalization*, which maps the challenges to further ratifications/ accessions and outlines a strategy based on actionable points.

Objectives

- Increased **number** of States Parties by the 12th MSP.
- Increased **knowledge** of the reasons why some States have not yet ratified the Convention.

- Increased **awareness** of the Convention.
- Increased **stigmatization** of the use of cluster munitions.

Activities

1. Hold **bilateral exchanges, including at Ambassadorial level, with the Permanent Missions** in Geneva of the States that have not yet ratified/accessions to the CCM and engage with those States during other disarmament meetings.
2. Recirculate among States Not Parties a **survey on the reasons why they might not be in a position to ratify the CCM**, in order to better understand their particular circumstances and enable a better and personalised approach to them.
3. Facilitate possible **side events** or speaking slots on CCM during other disarmament meetings held in Geneva or in other cities hosting disarmament meetings.
4. Continue the activities of the **Informal Working Group** on CCM universalization with States Not Parties, CMC, ICRC and other interested stakeholders, taking into account that universalization is a joint effort.
5. In coordination with the Presidency and the ISU, assist in facilitation of **regional workshops** to promote ratification/accession to the CCM.
6. Work with the **Thematic Coordinator on National Implementation Measures** on the provision of model legislation for possible use by small States that do not possess cluster munitions and have not been contaminated by them.
7. With assistance from the ISU, approach legislative authorities of States Not Parties through the **Inter Parliamentary Union**.
8. Re-engage with the Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)
9. Draft a working document on the efforts to strengthen the norms against the use of cluster munitions (the stigmatization paradigm) in collaboration with the ISU and other relevant stakeholders.
10. Collaborate with CMC and the ICRC in their universalization efforts, including the promotion of their Ratification Toolkits.
11. Engage with the Treaty Section of the UN Office of Legal Affairs (New York) in order to include the CCM in the list of treaties to be highlighted for ratification at their “Treaty events”.

Target States

- Signatory States that have yet to complete their ratification processes.

- States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention that have not yet acceded to the CCM.
- States Parties to the CCW Amended Protocol II and Protocol V
- States that, at the First Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations, vote in favour of the resolution on the “Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions” that are not yet States Parties to the Convention.
- States Not Party to the Convention that have issued unilateral declarations in support of the Convention’ norms or have voluntarily submitted transparency reports or have taken interim steps.

Expected Outputs

- At least one new State Party by the 12 MSP.
- Better understanding of the reasons why some States do not ratify.
- Awareness raising

Estimated Budget

- Limited budget, depending on the strategy adopted.

Strategy Implementers

- Malawi - Coordinator on Universalization;
- Peru - Coordinator on Universalization;
- Spain and Philippines – former Coordinators on Universalization and CCM State Party with leverage and knowledge in South East Asia;
- With the technical support of the CCM - Implementation Support Unit;
- Thematic Coordinator on National Implementation Measures;
- ICRC;
- CMC.

Implementing Partners

- Thematic Coordinators;
- Civil Society; and
- Other international stakeholder organisations.

Timeline of Activities

November - December 2023:

Outreach activities during the APMB Meeting of States Parties and BWC Working Group.

February 2024:

Meet with ISU and 12MSP Presidency to plan the work ahead for CCM universalization activities.

February 2024:

Re distribute the survey on the reasons why States Not Party do not ratify, particularly to States that did not respond.

December 2023 – September 2024:

1. Outreach and focus on target States.
2. Prepare a working document on Universalization.
3. Prepare a working document based on the results of the survey.
4. Reconvene the “Informal Working Group on Universalization”.
5. Assist in facilitation of regional workshops to promote ratification/accession to the CCM.
6. Preparation of the 12MSP Progress Report.
7. Bilateral exchanges with the Permanent Missions in Geneva of the States that have not yet ratified /acceded to the CCM.
8. Meeting with IPU and PGA.
9. Facilitate side events or speaking slots at Geneva disarmament meetings
10. Collaborate with the ICRC on the promotion of its CCM Ratification Toolkit.
11. Work with the Thematic Coordinator on National Implementation Measures on the provision of model legislation.
12. Collaborate with CMC and the ICRC in their universalization efforts.

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