



Informal workshop on enhancing transparency reporting

Meeting summary

As Coordinator on Transparency Measures for the Convention on Cluster Munitions, on 3 February 2026 Australia convened an informal workshop on enhancing transparency reporting. Taking forward the recommendations in [Australia's 2025 working paper](#), this meeting aimed to identify priority solutions for improving transparency reporting outcomes, and foster collaboration between transparency practitioners working across arms control frameworks.

Participants included States Parties, civil society organisations, UNODA, UNIDIR, and Implementation Support Units and Secretariats for the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, Arms Trade Treaty, Biological Weapons Convention, Convention on Cluster Munitions, and Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.

Key takeaways

Participants identified '**quick wins**' that could drive enhanced outcomes with limited investment of resources:

- 1. Deeper coordination with national focal points**
 - a. Inter-agency cooperation across instruments
 - b. In-country engagement with ISU/Secretariats, civil society and UN agencies
 - c. More effective reminders to focal points in relation to the quality, deadline and value of reports
- 2. Improved guidance and templates**
 - a. Providing guidance in national languages
 - b. Developing clearer standards and best-practice examples, and integrating these into report templates
 - c. Identifying creative ways to capture informal and verbal updates in reports
 - d. Provide States more flexibility in selecting parts of reports as private, instead of entire reports
- 3. Targeted capacity-building**
 - a. Creating peer support and regional champion networks
 - b. Building capacity across multiple instruments, to reduce siloes
 - c. ISUs/Secretariats delivering workshops for States Parties to address gaps and raise literacy
- 4. Demonstrating value of reports**
 - a. Finding opportunities at key convention meetings and in margins to spotlight how reports are used
- 5. Avoiding creation of additional reporting obligations**

Participants also identified **enhancements that would require deeper investment** including:

- States Parties improving national databases, and more clearly defining roles and responsibilities within national agencies
- ISUs/Secretariats providing tailored feedback on reports to national focal points
- Tailored capacity-building initiatives such as e-learning, a 'help desk' at key convention meetings, and training on information management
- Improving software for submitting, viewing and analysing reports, such as a 'one stop shop' for reporting across instruments.

Participants identified certain initiatives as having a **lower likelihood of success**, including: changing convention text to align reporting deadlines across instruments, and investing overly in tweaking reporting templates at the expense of investing in capacity-building.

Next steps

These findings will inform Australia's ongoing work as Coordinator on Transparency Measures in 2026. Australia encourages participants to collaborate on identifying next steps for progressing priorities identified during the workshop.