



GICHD support for the Convention on Cluster Munitions

This document outlines the support that the GICHD has provided and could provide on issues dealt with in the discussion papers leading to the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions

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Introduction

The GICHD welcomes the substantive preparation of possible topics to be considered at the First Meeting of States Parties of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The discussion papers circulated by the Friends of the Chair will be instrumental in reaching good outcomes of the Meeting to be held in Vientiane. It will be important for affected States to inform clearly on their needs, the challenges and the plans to tackle those. The expectations in terms of international support should be stated as early as possible. In addition to funding, needs for expertise and operational support should be discussed in Vientiane. Cluster munitions clearance and destruction activities are not new and lessons learnt from States, international organizations and operators should be shared. Topics which need further studies and consideration could be identified.

The GICHD works on request and some activities will depend on the financial resources available. Concerning victim assistance, the expertise relies in particular within the APMBC Implementation Support Unit. The GICHD can support States Parties with advice and training on policy and strategic planning, operational methods and technology, information management; with applied research and information exchange; and with the development of standards. The form and type of support is mentioned for each discussion paper.

Vientiane Political Declaration (Laos)

- Encourage a strong commitment towards the full and earliest implementation of the Convention.

Vientiane Action Plan (Norway)

- Provide substantive inputs to the chapters on stockpile destruction and clearance.

Stockpile Destruction, Article 3 (Germany)

- Advise on relevant and appropriate stockpile destruction methods.
- Assist in defining categories of weapon types which fall under this obligation.
- Advise on the reporting procedures for stockpile destruction activities.
- Support the review and development of national standards and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for stockpile destruction of cluster munitions (all IMAS have been amended in the last quarter of 2009 to ensure compliance with the CCM in general, and to address issues related to clearance and stockpile destruction of cluster munitions in particular. Efforts to translate them into other languages and provision of trainings and advisory services will continue.)

Clearance, Article 4 (Australia)

- Advise on developing land release methodologies and systems (non-technical survey, technical survey, etc), neutralisation techniques, and detector technology.
- Studies on concepts and best practises for the release of land contaminated by cluster munitions remnants.
- Undertake applied research and trials on discriminating metal detectors for technical survey and clearance of cluster munitions remnants.
- Review the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) to accommodate for CCM clearance terminology and reporting formats.
- Advise on the formulation of policies and systems for setting clearance priorities.
- Advise on the formulation of national strategies and action plans for addressing the contamination problems in ways that are aligned with local, provincial, sectoral and

national reconstruction and development priorities, and integrated with national development plans, expenditure plans, and aid effectiveness strategies.

- Assist with the formulation of monitoring and evaluation policies and systems to track progress, generate lessons learned, and enhance accountability to the government and to the people in affected communities as well as to the international community.
- Support in the review and development of national standards and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for clearance of cluster munitions.
- Support in efforts to quantify the contamination (the most heavily impacted countries have no country-wide survey or only an LIS-type survey).

Victim Assistance, Article 5 (Austria)

- Advise on the formulation of national policies, strategies, and action plans, to meet the medical, physical and psycho-social rehabilitation, and economic reintegration needs of victims.
- Advise on the formulation of policies and systems to assess the needs of affected-communities and the constraints to community, sectoral, and national reconstruction and development activities caused by cluster munitions contamination.
- Assist with the formulation of monitoring and evaluation policies and systems to track progress, generate lessons learned, enhance accountability to the government and to the people in affected communities, as well as to the international community.

International Cooperation and Assistance, Article 6 (South Africa)

- Advise donors on the relevance and effectiveness of their assistance, and on priorities and critical unmet needs.
- Assist in the formulation of a common monitoring and evaluation framework including joint monitoring indicators, in line with aid effectiveness principles.
- Assist in the formulation of a common evaluation/research agenda and in the planning and implementation of evaluations or studies to further that agenda.
- Advise on situating the cluster munitions strategy within a broader strategy (overall mines/ERW programme strategy and national development strategy).
- Host best practice workshops covering topics such as strategic planning, land release, risk education, etc.

National implementation measures, Article 9 (New-Zealand)

- Assist states parties in the preparation of legislation on setting up a Mine Action Authority/Centre through advice, training, workshop, etc.

Reporting format (Belgium)

- Develop the Reporting guideline providing amongst other topics a glossary and set of categories to be used when reporting on contamination.

Universalisation (Japan)

- Advise on the technical aspects of the CCM to support universalisation activities.
- Training on humanitarian disarmament conventions.

Work programme 2011 (Canada)

- Hosting the Intersessionals if requested: conference management, meeting rooms, interpretation, website development, publications, IT, secretariat support, etc.
- Administration of the CCM sponsorship programme if requested.