

Suggestions for integrating gender and diversity in the Convention machinery

In order to ensure that gender and diversity is mainstreamed in the implementation of the convention in line with the actions in the Lausanne Action Plan, the treaty machinery should be adjusted in order to provide appropriate oversight, support and analysis. The Gender Working Group proposes a solution that entails mainstreaming the gender and diversity responsibility in the existing Coordinating Committee Structure by nominating three existing Coordinators as gender focal points.

Gender Focal Points:

Gender and diversity should be mainstreamed in all aspects of the implementation of the Convention. However, we recognize that is more relevant for certain aspects of the Convention – namely clearance and risk education, victim assistance and international cooperation and assistance. Therefore, we propose that three of the existing Coordinators on the Committee – one from each thematic area – should be nominated as gender focal points. The mandate should be for at least one year.

Purpose

The purpose of the gender focal points is to improve gender and diversity mainstreaming in cluster munitions programmes and to promote the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in all aspects of the implementation of the Convention.

Mandate

- The mandate of the President should be amended to include responsibility for nominating gender focal points in the Coordinating Committee at the start of their term. The President may also nominate a “lead” among the focal points who would be responsible for coordinating joint activities.
- The mandate of the Coordinators should be amended so that three of the Coordinators covering clearance and risk education, victim assistance and international cooperation and assistance, can be nominated as gender focal points to conduct the following activities:
 - Review information on gender and diversity submitted by States Parties through formal reporting and provide advice and support in a cooperative manner to States Parties on the fulfilment of the gender objectives set out in the Lausanne Action Plan.
 - Prepare and submit to the States Parties in advance of Meetings of the States Parties an analysis of the information voluntarily reported on and summarise sector trends with regards to mainstreaming gender and diversity.
 - Organise a plenary session on gender and diversity in cluster munitions programmes at Meetings of the States Parties and Review Conferences to facilitate discussion and exchange of information among States Parties on progress and challenges in this area.
 - The focal points may also choose to support regional or national dialogues on integrating a gender and diversity perspective in the implementation of the convention.