

Gender Working Group Initial Input into the Development of the Lausanne Action Plan

8 June 2020

This input is provided by the Gender Working Group¹ in response to the CCM President's letter of 15 May 2020 and structured to align to the questions posed in the Lausanne Action Plan (LAP) Concept Note.

- *What should be the main objective of the LAP?*

States Parties should commit to implement the Lausanne Action Plan (LAP) in an inclusive, age-appropriate, gender and diversity sensitive manner and to promote all women and girls' full, equal and meaningful participation in the sector. To measure success, the LAP should set ambitious objectives that encourage gender and diversity sensitive and responsive programming to become standard practice.

- *Is an introduction necessary/helpful as in the DAP, or would a set of best practices be more useful?*

Both an introduction and a set of best practices would be helpful to frame the LAP and outline cross-cutting themes relevant to the quality of implementation of the Convention.

Proposed wording to be included in the introduction

States Parties recognize that understanding different people's experiences, capacities, needs and vulnerabilities will allow them to better address the needs and protect the rights of people through the Convention's implementation. States Parties commit to developing transparent, needs-based treaty implementation strategies that reflect different gender and diversity factors. State Parties further commit to mainstream gender and diversity in all aspects of the implementation of the Convention.

- *Should the LAP contain a set of cross-cutting actions?*

Yes, the LAP should include cross-cutting actions, including a dedicated action on mainstreaming gender and diversity. In addition, gender and diversity should be mainstreamed throughout the LAP and reflected in actions under relevant sections.

Suggested action on gender and diversity mainstreaming:

States Parties should ensure that the needs and perspectives of people of diverse ages and genders, and all diversity aspects are considered and inform all areas of Convention implementation and cluster munitions programmes, in order to deliver an inclusive approach. States Parties should identify effective ways to remove barriers to full, equal and gender balanced participation in cluster munitions operations and in Convention meetings to the fullest extent possible.

- *How could actions best be measured? Should we retain the approach of the DAP with a few expected results for each section or should we have one or more specific indicator for each action?*

¹ The Gender Working Group members are: Colombian Campaign to Ban Landmines, Danish Church Aid, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, The HALO Trust, Humanity and Inclusion, International Campaign to Ban Landmines-Cluster Munition Coalition (ICBL-CMC), Mines Action Canada, Mines Advisory Group, Mine Action Review, and Norwegian People's Aid.

The DAP has proved difficult to measure. The LAP should have clear actions and specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) indicators for each action.

Suggested indicators for the above-mentioned action on gender mainstreaming:

A) the percentage of affected States Parties whose national strategies and/or work plans mainstream gender and diversity considerations.

B) the percentage of women in States Parties' delegations attending Convention meetings.

- *Should a baseline for these indicators be developed and how?*

Yes. A baseline should be established for these indicators. The Presidency should consider options for revising the Article 7 reporting templates and guidelines to reflect the actions in the LAP. This should be done well in advance of the 2021 reporting deadline to allow enough time for states to collect and report on this data. The Gender Working Group can support with advice on reporting guidance for gender and diversity actions and indicators.

- *Are there missing topics in the list of thematic domains that should be added or should some sections be sub-divided?*

The "clearance and risk reduction education section" would benefit from being split into "Survey and Clearance" and "Explosive Ordnance Risk Education and Reduction" to ensure both very important aspects of the convention are fully addressed, including the gender and diversity considerations relevant for these activities.

- *In the case we include cross-cutting issues in the LAP, should that be in a dedicated initial chapter or mainstreamed throughout the document?*

Cross-cutting issues, such as gender and diversity, should be included both in a dedicated initial chapter (see proposed wording above) and mainstreamed throughout the document, as outlined in the sections below.

- Also, what issues should such cross-cutting actions cover?

The cross-cutting action should include, but not be limited to, mainstreaming gender and diversity (see proposed wording above for an action related to gender and diversity).

On clearance and risk education and reduction

- *What considerations should guide this section and what actions should it include?*

'Clearance and Risk Reduction Education' should be split into two separate sections: 'Survey and Clearance' and 'Explosive Ordnance Risk Education and Reduction'.

Inclusive consultations with all groups in the local communities are essential for efficient and effective cluster munitions operations. They present an opportunity to confirm the existence of contamination and should inform the land release prioritisation process based on the needs expressed by the community. Similarly, explosive ordnance risk education activities and similar programming must be tailored to the needs and capacities of different groups in order to be effective.

Survey and Clearance

- *Which actions from the DAP should be maintained and/or updated? What actions may be missing?*

An action point on inclusivity should be maintained in the Survey and Clearance section of the LAP. We therefore propose that 'DAP Action 3.4 - Be inclusive when developing the response', should be maintained but needs updating.

Proposed action:

Affected States Parties will ensure that national mine action programmes are inclusive of diverse groups within affected communities and consider age, gender, ethnicity, disability, and any other factors in all appropriate activities related to survey and clearance of cluster munition remnants, from establishing the baseline of contamination through to determining clearance prioritisation.

- *What indicators should we use?*

Proposed indicators:

- A) The percentage of affected States Parties who report having established their baseline of cluster munition contamination through inclusive consultations with people of different ages, genders, and diversity aspects during survey and community liaison.
- B) The percentage of affected States Parties who report having set criteria in place for prioritisation of clearance, which are inclusive of the needs of different ages, genders, and diversity aspects of the affected communities.

Explosive Ordnance Risk Education and Reduction

Proposed action:

States Parties should provide context-specific explosive ordnance risk education programmes to all affected populations and groups at risk. They should ensure that such programmes are developed on the basis of a needs assessment, that they are tailored to the threat encountered by the population, and that they are sensitive to gender, age, disability and other diversity factors.

Proposed indicators:

- A) the percentage of affected States Parties that report carrying out explosive ordnance risk education activities that collect, analyse and report data disaggregated by gender, age, disability and other diversity factors.
 - B) the percentage of affected States Parties that report implementing explosive ordnance risk education activities in a gender and diversity sensitive way, taking into account different at-risk groups
- *What should the States Parties expect from States requesting extensions?*

Gender and diversity considerations should be included in extension requests and the relevant coordinators should assess and analyze the extent to which gender and diversity has been mainstreamed. If insufficient information is provided, the relevant coordinators should request clarifications.

- *How can we ensure that affected States, donors States and implementing partners work together efficiently in order to ensure completion within the deadlines laid down in the Convention?*

The “country coalition” model provides a useful example of collaboration between affected States, donor States and implementing partners to ensure effective operations and completion within deadlines. We encourage stakeholders to use this model not only to address technical challenges for convention implementation, but also to discuss good practices and challenges to integrating gender and diversity considerations in cluster munitions programmes.

On victim assistance

- *What considerations should guide this section and what actions should it include?*

Proposed actions:

A) States Parties should ensure that people of all ages and genders impacted by cluster munitions, including survivors and indirect victims, have access to gender-sensitive, disability and age appropriate health, rehabilitation, mental health and psychosocial support services as well as school, work and employment, inclusive sports/leisure and cultural activities.

B) States Parties should establish or strengthen a centralised database that includes information on persons killed or injured by cluster munitions and their needs and challenges, disaggregated by gender, age and disability, and make this information available to relevant stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive and integrated response to addressing the needs of cluster munitions victims.

C) States Parties should encourage participation of survivors in the Convention’s work at both national and international levels ensuring representation regardless of gender, age, disability or other diversity factors.

- *Which actions from the DAP should be maintained and/or updated? What actions may be missing?*

Actions 4.1 and 4.2 should be updated in order to include a gender, age, and disability inclusive approach also considering other diversity factors, as outlined above.

- *What steps can be taken by the various CCM actors in affected and donor States to ensure victim assistance is integrated in broader humanitarian, human rights and development frameworks?*

Affected countries should adopt or update national mine action standards in line with the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) on Victim Assistance (VA) to ensure that the roles and responsibilities of both the multi-sector engagement by non-mine action actors and that of the mine action sector comply with the IMAS on VA. By doing this, they should adopt gender, age and disability inclusive approaches and take into consideration other diversity factors in order to reach the most vulnerable.

- *What indicators should we use?*

Proposed indicators:

- A) the percentage of States Parties that provide gender-sensitive, disability and age appropriate victim assistance services
- B) the percentage of States Parties that disaggregate victim data by gender, age and disability
- C) the percentage of States Parties that include victims of cluster munitions in disability data systems

On international cooperation and assistance

- *What considerations should guide this section and what actions should it include?*

International cooperation and assistance should be responsive to gender and diversity considerations and promote the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and other marginalized groups in cluster munitions operations.

Proposed actions:

A) States Parties in a position to do so will provide assistance to other States Parties in the implementation of their obligations under the Convention. In doing so, they will support the implementation of clear, evidence-based national strategies and work plans that respond to the needs of people of all ages and genders in affected communities and are built on sound gender and diversity analysis.

B) States Parties should continuously explore opportunities for cooperation, including sharing experiences and best practices of integrating gender and diversity into cluster munitions programmes.

- *Which actions from the DAP should be maintained and/or updated? What actions may be missing?*

DAP Action 5.3a should be amended to ensure that requests for cooperation and assistance are based on appropriate survey, needs assessments and analysis, including an emphasis on gender, diversity, and age specific requirements, as outlined in proposed action A above.

- *What indicators should we use?*

A) Number of donor States that report including dedicated budget lines for gender and diversity mainstreaming in mine action funding streams.

B) Number of States that report sharing best practices and lessons learnt, including on mainstreaming gender and diversity, through international, regional, South-to-South, triangular and/or bilateral cooperation

On transparency measures

- *What can be done by the CCM community to reduce the reporting workload while ensuring qualitative and timely reports?*

Reporting formats and guidance should be revised to reduce the workload and reflect the structure of the Lausanne Action Plan. However, this should not be done at the expense of quality. Providing analysis on how gender and diversity considerations are included in cluster munitions programmes is an essential step to determine the quality of implementation. The Gender Working Group can support with advice on reporting guidance for gender and diversity actions and indicators.