

CCM STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION CONCEPT NOTE

Enhancing Implementation of Action 2 of the Dubrovnik Action Plan (Stockpile Destruction) up to the 7th Meeting of States Parties (7MSP)

1. Background to Work Plan Context

Under Article 3 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, each States Party is required to declare and destroy all stockpiled cluster munitions under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible, but no later than eight years after entry into force for that State Party. Article 6, paragraph 5 of the Convention requires that each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the destruction of stockpiled cluster munitions.

As at 5th October 2016, eleven (11) States Parties had obligations under Article 3. The first deadlines for destruction of stockpiles are in 2018 (Croatia and Spain) and 2019 (Botswana, Bulgaria and Guinea-Bissau).

To guide States Parties effectively implement the Convention during the period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2020, at the September 2015 First Review Conference of States Party to the CCM, States agreed to the five year Dubrovnik Action Plan (DAP). The DAP 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. Stockpile destruction of the CCM is the DAP's Action 2 and will provide the primary basis on which this concept note's activities to achieve the outlined objectives will be derived.

Action 2 of the DAP encourages States Parties with stockpile destruction obligations to develop a resourced plan, apply an appropriate approach to retention and increase exchanges of promising practices. States Parties that have complied with the obligations are also encouraged to announce their compliance and increase exchanges of promising practices with those still with commitments. All States Parties are required to act upon any unexpected developments regarding previously unknown stockpiles of cluster munitions.

2. Objectives

- By 7MSP the 5 States Parties with deadlines in 2018 and 2019 are on target to comply with their individual obligations within the prescribed Convention timeframe
- Facilitate increased levels of reporting on matters pertaining to Article 3 implementation
- Facilitate increased exchange of information of good and cost effective stockpile destruction practices including on safety, environmental impact and efficiency
- States that have retained cluster munitions for the permitted uses under Article 3 have provided current information on this use as most have not
- The 7MSP adopts a voluntary template for the declaration of compliance with Article 3

3. Strategy

- Focus on the 2 States Parties (Botswana and Guinea Bissau) which have not provided information on progress regarding their current obligations under Article 3 and whose deadlines are in 2019
- Work with the 3 States Parties (Bulgaria, Croatia and Spain) with 2018/2019 deadlines to ensure that by 7MSP they are on track to declare completion before their respective deadlines
- A small number of States Parties that are believed to have stockpiled cluster munitions at some point in time (based on publicly available information) and that have not yet submitted a transparency report are encouraged to do so.
- Facilitate the development of partnerships and increase exchanges of promising practices among the target States Parties, States Parties that have finished the destruction of stockpiles, donor States and international operators through outreach activities (letters, emails, phone calls), desktop analysis, drafting of summaries and effective use of existing electronic and web-based dissemination tools
- Identify obstacles to stockpile destruction in the target States Parties and explore ways to overcome them in a collaborative manner through outreach activities such as sending letters and/or emails, organizing meetings with Geneva-based stakeholders or capital-based representatives in the margins of other key disarmament events during the year
- Contact bilaterally or through formal correspondence States Parties that have retained cluster munitions but have not provided adequate information on their use as required under Article 3.8 and Action 2.3 of the DAP
- A draft voluntary template for the declaration of compliance is submitted to the 7MSP

4. Expected Outputs

- That by the 7MSP the 3 States Parties with deadlines in 2019 have provided concrete evidence that they are on track to comply with their obligations or have a definitive plan on how to comply with their commitments
- That the States that have finished the destruction of stocks exchange relevant information on good and cost effective stockpile destruction practices
- 12 out of 17 States Parties that have retained submunitions in accordance with Article 3.8 of the Convention have not regularly reported on the past and planned use of retained munitions through their Article 7 reports.
- That the 7MSP adopts a template for the declaration of compliance with Article 3 to be used on a voluntary basis

5. Timelines

- Focus on the 2 States Parties (Botswana and Guinea Bissau) which have not provided information on progress regarding their current obligations under Article 3 and whose deadlines are in 2019 – **31st December 2016 (letters/bilateral meetings)**
- Work with the 3 States Parties (Bulgaria, Croatia and Spain) with 2018/2019 deadlines to ensure that by 7MSP they are on track to declare completion before their respective deadlines – **up to 7MSP (letters/bilateral meetings/possible engagement with military experts from respective MoDs)**
- A small number of States Parties that are believed to have stockpiled cluster munitions at some point in time (based on publicly available information) and that have not yet submitted a transparency report are encouraged to do so. - **by 31st March 2017 (letters/bilateral meetings)**
- Facilitate the development of partnerships and increase exchanges of promising practices among the target States Parties, States Parties that have finished the destruction of stockpiles, donor States and international operators through outreach activities (letters, emails, phone calls), desktop analysis, drafting of summaries and effective use of existing electronic and web-based dissemination tools – **up to 7MSP**
- Identify obstacles to stockpile destruction in the target States Parties and explore ways to overcome them in a collaborative manner through outreach activities such as sending letters and/or emails, organizing meetings with Geneva-based stakeholders or capital-based representatives in the margins of other key disarmament events during the year – **up to 7MSP**
- Contact bilaterally or through formal correspondence States Parties that have retained cluster munitions but have not provided adequate information on their use as required under Article 3.8 and Action 2.3 of the DAP – **2nd quarter of 2017**
- A draft voluntary template for the declaration of compliance is submitted to the 7MSP – **by 31st May 2017**

6. Estimated Budget

Limited costs, depending on the strategy adopted.

7. Strategy Implementers

- Mexico - Coordinator on Stockpile Destruction
- Croatia - Coordinator on Stockpile Destruction
- CCM Implementation Support Unit

8. Potential Implementing Partners

- States Parties and signatory States that have fulfilled obligations under Article 3
- Donor States
- International NGOs / operators
- Aid agencies