



CONVENTION  
ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

# GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

Monday, April 29th 2024

# THE 2008 CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

- The Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) is an international treaty that addresses the *humanitarian consequences* and *unacceptable harm to civilians* caused by cluster munitions, through categorical prohibitions, remedial measures and cooperative implementation provisions.
- The Convention was opened for signature on 3 December 2008 and entered into force on 1 August 2010.
- A total of 124 States have committed to the Convention: 112 as State Parties, 12 as signatories.

# WHAT ARE CLUSTER MUNITIONS?

Cluster munitions are weapons that disperse or release explosive submunitions - small, unguided explosives or bomblets—each weighing less than 20 kilograms—that are designed to explode prior to, on or after impact.

# WHY THE NEED FOR THE CCM?

## *Why ban cluster munitions?*

Cluster munitions have been a humanitarian issue for decades, mainly because of the heavy toll on civilians—especially children—during and after armed conflict.

*During armed conflict* they scatter large number of explosive submunitions over wide areas in order to destroy mobile or military targets. Civilian casualties are often high when cluster munitions are used against military objectives in populated areas.

*After the end of armed conflict*, a high percentage of the submunitions that are released fail to detonate, contaminating large areas with deadly explosive ordnance. Their presence makes farming and other essential activities hazardous. It hinders reconstruction and development of infrastructure.



# CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

## KEY OPERATIVE OBLIGATIONS

- **PROHIBITIONS** - States adhering to the Convention must never under any circumstances use, develop, produce, acquire stockpile, retain or transfer cluster munitions.
- **TIMETABLE FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF STOCKPILES** - States possessing cluster munitions are required within 8 years of becoming a party to the Convention to destroy the stockpiles of cluster munitions under its jurisdiction or control.
- **FRAMEWORK FOR CLEARANCE** - States affected by cluster munitions must clear their territory of unexploded submunitions within 10 years of becoming a party to the Convention.
- **ESTABLISH ROBUST VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS** - Each State Party that has cluster munition victims on its territory or under its control must provide for their medical care and physical rehabilitation, psychological support and social and economic inclusion.



# MEASURES AND MECHANISMS TO PROMOTE IMPLEMENTATION AND ENSURE COMPLIANCE

- **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE** – Each State Party has the right to seek and receive assistance from other State Parties in order to help them implement the Convention's obligations. In parallel, each State Party in a position to do so must provide technical, material and financial assistance to other State parties.
- **UNDERTAKE TRANSPARENCY MEASURES** – State Parties are required to report annually to the UN Secretary General by April 30, on a range of issues detailed in article 7 of the Convention.
- **ADOPT NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES** – State Parties are required to take all legal administrative and other measures to implement the Convention. This includes the imposition of penal sanctions to prevent and suppress violations by persons or on territory, under the State's jurisdiction or control. To this end domestic legislation may have to be adopted and regulations governing the armed forces amended.



# CONVENTION STATUS BY OBLIGATION

## STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION

0 States

## CLEARANCE

10 States

1. Afghanistan (2026)
2. Chad (2024)
3. Chile (2026)
4. Germany(2025)
5. Iraq (2028)
6. Lao PDR (2025)
7. Lebanon(2026)
8. Mauritania (2026)
9. Somalia (2026)
10. South Sudan (2034)

## VICTIM ASSISTANCE

12 States

1. Afghanistan
2. Albania
3. Bosnia & Herzegovina
4. Chad
5. Croatia
6. Iraq
7. Lao PDR
8. Lebanon
9. Mauritania
10. Montenegro
11. Somalia
12. South Sudan

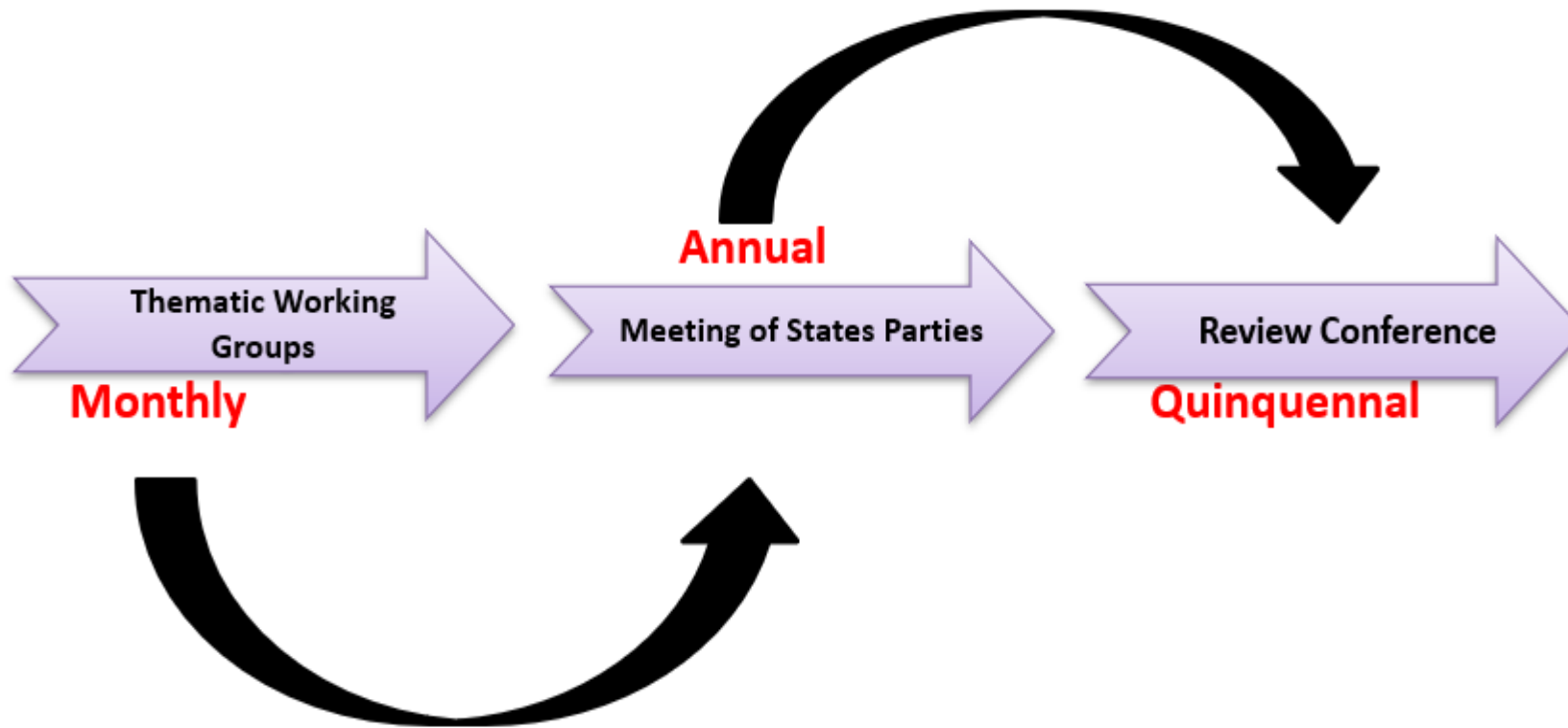
# LAUSANNE ACTION PLAN



- Building on the Dubrovnik Action Plan, the Lausanne Action Plan – adopted at the Second Review Conference in 2021 – aims to achieve significant and sustainable progress towards the universalization and implementation of the Convention for the period 2021-2026.
- The Action Plan lays out concrete actions that State Parties will take to this end. Each action is accompanied by one or more indicators, to monitor progress and identify challenges in their implementation.
- The actions set forth in the Action Plan are *not* legal requirements but are meant to assist and provide guidance to State Parties in the implementation of the Convention.



# CONVENTION ARCHITECTURE – MEETINGS



# CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS ANNUAL RESOLUTION

- Since 2015 a CCM annual resolution is presented to the United Nations General Assembly.
- The draft resolution is approved during the First Committee and the final vote is conducted at the UNGA in December.

UNGA voting pattern for CCM resolutions				
<u>Year</u>	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
2015	139	2	40	12
2016	141	2	39	11
2017	142	2	36	13
2018	144	1	38	10
2019	144	1	38	10
2020	147	0	38	8
2021	146	1	37	9
2022	144	1	37	11
2023	148	1	36	8

# ROLE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT UNIT

- Provide support to States Parties on the implementation of the CCM
- Support States Parties through the Convention's machinery
- Providing advice and technical support
- Prepare for and keep records of formal and informal meetings
- Facilitating communication amongst States Parties and other relevant actors
- Interface between the States Parties and the international community
- Promote universalization of the Convention



**THANK YOU**

For more information

[www.clusterconvention.org](http://www.clusterconvention.org)

[info@cmconvention.org](mailto:info@cmconvention.org)

[www.clusterconvention.org](http://www.clusterconvention.org)

