



Quarterly Newsletter

1 April - 30 June 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

11MSP open for registration

New ISU Director

IWG on Universalization

2022 annual report regional early bird medalists



**11TH MEETING
OF STATES PARTIES
11 - 14 SEPTEMBER
GENEVA 2023**

Eleventh Meeting of States Parties (11MSP)



Left: Room XIX of the Palais des Nations, photo by Studio Peia / Giovanna Silva; right: 11MSP President, Amb. Abdul-Karim Hashim Mostafa

REGISTER NOW FOR THE 11MSP

The Eleventh Meeting of States Parties (11MSP) to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) is scheduled to be held from 11 to 14 September 2023 in Room XIX of the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. Invitations have been extended to States Parties, Signatories, States not Party to the CCM, and relevant international and non-governmental organizations by the United Nations.

To ensure participation, the details of delegations should be submitted via Note Verbale by **31 August 2023** to:

Office for Disarmament Affairs, Geneva Branch
United Nations Office at Geneva
Palais des Nations, Building H, Second Floor, WP.24
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Email: ccm@un.org

Delegations are encouraged to register promptly and to stay updated by regularly visiting the 11MSP webpages. For further inquiries or assistance, please contact the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) info@cmconvention.org

Pamela Moraga assumes role as new ISU Director



Left: Symbolic handover of the office of ISU directorship; right: Ms. Pamela Moraga and the ISU team

Following the agreement reached at the 2nd Review Conference in September 2021, the tenure of CCM ISU Directors was set to a four-year term, renewable once. In accordance with this decision, Ms. Sheila Mweemba's eight-year tenure as Director concluded on 30 April 2023.

In line with the selection procedure adopted by the 10MSP in September 2022, a selection panel chaired by the 11th Meeting of States Parties (11MSP) President was established. The panel diligently carried out the recruitment process and ultimately recommended the appointment of Ms. Pamela Moraga as the new ISU Director.

As of 1 May 2023, Ms. Pamela Moraga assumed the role of ISU Director. Ms. Moraga brings with her a wealth of experience, as a lawyer and career diplomat, having previously served as the Coordinator of the Disarmament, non-proliferation, and Arms Control Unit at the Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations Office in Geneva. Prior to that, she held the position of Advisor to the Secretary General at the Organization of American States (OAS) and fulfilled her duties at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Acting Director of the Multilateral Policy Directorate and Head of the Department of Hemispheric Organizations among other positions.

ISU engages with delegations to strengthen CCM implementation



Left: The ISU team with the Iraqi delegation; right: The ISU Director with the ARMAC Executive Director

The new Director and the ISU team engaged with various delegations during the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Intersessional Meetings from 19 to 21 June, as well as the 26th International Meeting of Mine Action National Directors and United Nations Advisers (NDM-UN26) on 22 and 23 June. These informal meetings served as platforms to introduce the new Director while discussing the status of CCM implementation by States Parties, the progress of accession /ratification by Signatories and States not Party, and to foster collaboration with other Convention stakeholders and implementation partners.

During these meetings, the ISU reaffirmed its commitment to State representatives and National Mine Action Authorities in supporting and advising them on universalizing and implementing the CCM. Key States engaged by the ISU included Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic

Republic, Lebanon, Mauritania, Somalia, South Sudan, Togo, and Zambia. These discussions aimed to enhance cooperation and exchange experiences in advancing the goals of the Convention.

In addition to engaging with States, the ISU also met with UN agencies and other international organizations and institutions to explore opportunities for improved coordination of international cooperation and assistance. Among the key stakeholders involved in these discussions were the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Organization of American States (OAS), the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC), HALO Trust, HORIZON, the Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Norwegian People's Aid (NPA), and the Small Arms Survey. These exchanges aimed to foster collaboration, share best practices, and explore ways to optimize joint efforts in achieving the objectives of the CCM.

Amendment of CCM reporting template



Representatives of the 11MSP Presidency and The Gambia

The Gambia, as Coordinator on Transparency Measures, has taken steps to amend the reporting template as per Action 45 of the Lausanne Action Plan (LAP), under the guidance of the Iraqi 11MSP Presidency. The Gambia began seeking proposals and suggestions for amendments to the original Article 7 reporting template in December 2022. From January 2023 onwards, the Coordinator, in cooperation

with the 11MSP Presidency and with the support of the ISU, held consultations with Convention stakeholders, including Coordination Committee members, States Parties, and international organizations. These efforts have resulted in the development of a draft amended reporting template, which will be considered at the upcoming 11MSP.

Meetings with States Parties with Article 3 obligations

Coordinators on Stockpile Destruction, Bulgaria and the Netherlands, with the support of the ISU, organized informal virtual meetings with several States Parties with Article 3 obligations. On 20 April, meetings were held with representatives of Bulgaria and Peru, respectively. The Coordinators and ISU met with Slovakian representatives on 9 May.

During the meeting with Peru, Peruvian officials informed that they had

destroyed 57% of its cluster munition stocks and assured that they were on track to achieve full compliance by the 1 April 2024 deadline. Likewise, Bulgaria indicated that it expected to complete its destruction ahead of its deadline of 31 December 2023. Similarly, Slovakia affirmed that it was on track in implementing its destruction plan and would be preparing for certification to declare completion before its 1 January 2024 deadline.

Informal Working Group on Universalization



Informal Working Group of Universalization on 19 June 2023

In an effort to increase the momentum of CCM universalization, Spain and Malawi, as Coordinators on CCM Universalization, convened the Informal Working Group (IWG) on Universalization on 19 June 2023. Supported by the ISU, the meeting aimed to facilitate discussions, share ideas, suggestions, best practices, and lessons learned in the realm of CCM universalization.

CCM ISU Director, Ms. Pamela Moraga, provided participants with an overview of the current status of CCM universalization. Mr. Juan Manglano of Spain, speaking on behalf of the Coordinators, informed on recent activities undertaken to promote adherence to the Convention and foster universalization efforts. Mr. Daniel Feakes, ISU Director of Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), was invited to share insights on achieving universalization goals from the BWC context.

The meeting boasted a diverse range of attendees, including representatives from 18 CCM States Parties, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), the European Union, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Cluster Munitions Coalition (CMC), Cluster Munition Monitor, Mines Action Canada, and Norwegian People's Aid (NPA).

Established in 2020, the IWG has since opened its membership to all interested States Parties, relevant institutions, and other partners, aiming to foster a cooperative approach to achieving universalization and strengthening the impact of the Convention.

Extension requests to be considered at the 11MSP

Two extension requests have been submitted for consideration at the upcoming 11MSP. Iraq and Mauritania have requested extensions, while South Africa has submitted its overdue annual reports and will require an extension as well.

On 16 November 2022, Iraq submitted its first official extension request, seeking a five-year extension to its Article 4 deadline of 1 November 2023. Following consultations with the Analysis Group, Iraq finalized the request on 11 April 2023, providing detailed, costed plans for survey, clearance and risk education.













Mauritania, on the other hand, submitted a draft extension request earlier this year, marking its second extension request under Article 4. The first request was granted during the Second Review Conference (2RC) in September 2021. The Analysis Group began evaluating

Mauritania's request in April 2023 and conducted several consultations with Mauritania thereafter. Mauritania intends to seek a two-year extension of its 1 August 2024 deadline.

After a lengthy hiatus since September 2017, South Africa submitted its overdue annual reports on 23 June 2023. The reports indicated that no actual destruction of its cluster munition stockpile had begun. In a letter accompanying the reports, South Africa explained that its destruction plan had been rescheduled to the 2023/2024 financial year. Consequently, it is expected that South Africa will submit an extension request to extend its Article 3 deadline of 1 November 2023.

The extension requests, along with the associated documents and feedback from the Analysis Group, are available on the [CCM website](#).

Regional early birds awarded for timely transparency reports

Medals	Africa	Americas	Asia-Pacific	Europe
	 Guinea-Bissau	 Saint Kitts & Nevis	 Australia	 Liechtenstein
	 Mauritius	 Dominican Rep.	 Lebanon	 Croatia
	 Botswana	 Mexico	 Iraq	 Montenegro

2022 annual transparency report medalists by region

CCM States Parties have once again been recognized for their timely submission of annual transparency reports. Regional early bird medals have been awarded to the first three countries from each region that submitted their reports well ahead of the 30 April 2023 deadline. This achievement highlights the importance of fulfilling reporting obligations in a timely manner, as outlined in Actions 43 to 46 of the LAP.

The 2022 annual reports provide valuable information and allow for the progress of the implementation of the LAP to be presented and discussed at the 11MSP. Reporting, both initially and annually, is a legal obligation and serves as a transparency and confidence-building

measure among States Parties.

At 30 June, only 50 out of the expected 102 annual reports covering the year 2022 have been submitted. States Parties yet to submit their reports are urged to do so promptly. In addition to the outstanding annual reports, there are eight States Parties that still need to submit their initial transparency reports, which were due several years ago. These countries include Cape Verde (2011), Comoros (2011), Togo (2013), Congo (2015), Guinea (2015), Rwanda (2016), Madagascar (2018), and São Tomé and Príncipe (2020).