



# PRESENTATION ON A RE-CAP OF THE ACCRA ACTION PLAN

AT THE  
TOGO REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE UNIVERSALIZATION  
OF THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

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# INTRODUCTION

- ✘ The Accra Regional Conference on the Universalization of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) was held at the La Palm Royal Beach Hotel Accra, Ghana from May 28 - 30 2012.
- ✘ The objective of this regional meeting was to:
  1. overcome challenges faced by African States on the CCM ratification or accession.
  2. strategize to further extend the reach of the treaty to assist African States Parties in fulfilling their obligations under the Convention.
  3. accelerate the implementation of the CCM in Africa.





# THE ACCRA ACTION PLAN

- ✘ Representatives of Sub-Saharan African States developed the Accra Action Plan with the ultimate aim to attain a cluster munitions free Africa with universal adherence to the CCM.
- ✘ In line with this, States expressed their support for joint efforts in the following actions in line with the Vientiane Action Plan.





# FULL UNIVERSALIZATION OF THE CCM

- ✘ States not yet party were encouraged to take all necessary steps to ratify or otherwise accede to the Convention if possible before the 3MSP.
- ✘ States parties to the Convention agreed to encourage and support States not yet party to become States parties as soon as possible, and where possible before the 3MSP.





# PROMOTION OF THE CCM

- ✘ States parties in line with Article 21 of the CCM, agreed to seize every opportunity to promote the CCM—and its strongest possible implementation, to States that have not yet ratified or acceded, such as through bilateral, sub-regional, regional outreach and multilateral.
- ✘ States agreed to cooperate with other partners including international organizations and civil society to promote the Convention to States not yet party.
- ✘ States not yet party agreed on the need to raise awareness for, mobilize and popularize the CCM nationally with the aim to encourage the promotion of accession or ratification of the Convention in their respective countries.





# PARTNERSHIPS, ASSISTANCE & COOPERATION

- ✘ States agreed to cooperate with States not yet party, to overcome challenges and obstacles to joining the Convention with the aim of ensuring their adherence to the Convention as soon as possible.





# PARTICIPATION

- ✘ States committed to participate in international, regional and national fora including the 3rd and future MSPs and at these events to report on actions taken to promote the Convention and work towards its full adherence.
- ✘ States also agreed to share the outcomes of these meetings with relevant stakeholders and actors nationally including to political leadership at the highest possible level.





# NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION

- ✘ States parties agreed to work towards the adoption and promulgation of comprehensive national legislation, administrative or other implementing measures, in accordance with Article 9 of the CCM in order to implement all obligations under the Convention.
- ✘ States also agreed to cooperate and share information on the content and application of implementing measures to encourage the development of national measures that supports the strongest possible implementation of the Convention.







# TECHNICAL WORKSHOP SESSION

- ✘ A parallel workshop session was held to avail the opportunity to participating countries to list their country-specific challenges for discussion and to identify possible ways forward.
- ✘ The common challenges identified included:
  - ❑ The lack of institutional mechanisms or focal contact persons to follow up on the ratification processes.
  - ❑ The lack of politically favorable conditions in some countries.





# COMMITMENTS MADE BY STATES

- ✘ States expressed their desire to pursue the ratification of the Convention at the earliest convenience, if possible, prior to the Third Meeting of States Parties in Oslo in September, 2012.
- ✘ The only exception was Eritrea who stated clearly his country's inability to join the Convention, until Ethiopia had done same because of the ongoing border conflict between the two States.





# COMMITMENTS MADE BY STATES

- ✘ Signatories Cameroun and Togo announced that their governments have approved ratification of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, and will take the final step of depositing the ratification with the UN within weeks.
- ✘ In the case of Cameroun, the delegation presented a copy of the Country's instrument of ratification signed by President H:E Paul Biya to the Chairman of the Conference.
- ✘ Fellow signatories Benin, Chad, the Gambia, and South Africa also said that they hope to ratify soon.
- ✘ Mauritius, which has not yet joined the treaty, said its National Humanitarian Law Committee will soon consider whether it can accede to the Convention's terms.





# PROGRESS SO FAR





# UNIVERSALIZATION



| COUNTRY      | STATUS                        |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| CAMEROON     | RATIFIED                      |
| CHAD         | RATIFIED                      |
| TOGO         | RATIFIED                      |
| SOUTH AFRICA | RATIFICATION IN PROGRESS      |
| DR. CONGO    | RATIFICATION IN PROGRESS      |
| ETHIOPIA     | HAS GIVEN INDICATION TO LEARN |
|              |                               |





# NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION

| COUNTRY      | STATUS  |
|--------------|---|
| GHANA        | Reached the final stages of Consultations on draft legislation.             |
| BURKINA FASO | Developing a national law on cluster munitions with the support of the ICRC |
| ZAMBIA       | To complete the process of domesticating the Convention by the 4MSP         |





# PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS

| MEETING                       | NO. OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACCRA REGIONAL MEETING        | 34                       |
| 3MSP OSLO, NORWAY             |                          |
| INTERSESSIONAL MEETING GENEVA | 29                       |
| LOME REGIONAL MEETING         | 36                       |





# CONCLUSION

- ✘ Universalization is a shared commitment
- ✘ I would like to encourage all States Parties, regional organizations and civil society, to continue to be actively engaged in the promotion of the CCM in Africa.







**THANK YOU**