

ISU MANDATE, CORE ACTIVITIES AND ACTIVITY REPORT – 6 MARCH 2015

Mandate <sup>1</sup>	2015 planned activities <sup>2</sup>	2015 activities undertaken as of 6 March
<p>Prepare, support and carry out follow-up activities from formal and informal meetings under the Convention including Meetings of the States Parties, Review Conferences, Amendment Conferences, intersessional meetings, Standing Committees, the Co-ordinating Committee and the article 5 Extension Request Analysing Group.<sup>3</sup></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide the President with advice and support necessary to prepare for the 14MSP.</li> <li>▪ Provide the host country with advice and support necessary to prepare for the 14MSP.</li> <li>▪ Provide advice and support to the presumed host and Presidency of the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties in order to that preparations proceed in a timely manner, including by carrying out one mission to prepare for the 15MSP.</li> <li>▪ Provide advice and support required by the President and Coordinating Committee for successful intersessional meetings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Preparation of a draft programme for the June intersessional meetings</li> <li>▪ Ongoing support to Committee Members on preparations for the June intersessional meetings</li> <li>▪ Collaboration with the GICHD and UN in identifying and securing a venue for the June intersessional meetings</li> <li>▪ Ongoing contact with Chile regarding preparations for the 15MSP</li> </ul>
<p>Provide substantive and other support to the President, President-Designate, and (Committee Members) in their work related to all such meetings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prepare for, support and follow-up on meetings of the Coordinating Committee, meetings of the Committee on Article 5 Implementation, meetings of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance, meetings of the Committee on Victim Assistance, and meetings of the Enhancement Cooperation and Assistance.</li> <li>▪ Assist Committees in the preparation of “preliminary observations, “conclusions” and “observations and recommendations.”</li> <li>▪ Support Committees / Committee Chairs that / who wish to undertake special initiatives (e.g., panel discussions, symposiums, etc.) to promote implementation.</li> <li>▪ Provide advice to the President on issues related to the pursuit of the Convention’s aims.</li> <li>▪ Maintain and evaluate the use of the <i>Platform for Partnerships</i> information exchange tool.</li> </ul>	<p>President:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 9 meetings with the President or representatives of the President</li> <li>▪ Support to the President’s initiative on reporting, including by arranging a meeting between the President’s representative and Committee Members, providing detailed background information and preparing a draft paper</li> <li>▪ Advice to the Presidency on marking the Convention’s entry into force anniversary</li> </ul> <p>Coordinating Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 3 meetings of the Coordinating Committee.</li> <li>▪ 2 President’s Summaries drafted and made available on the Convention’s website</li> </ul> <p>Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 meetings with the Chair; 1 meeting with the Committee</li> <li>▪ 2 bilateral meetings with States Parties</li> <li>▪ 1 meeting with mine action donors</li> <li>▪ 3 meetings (jointly with the Committee on Article 5 Implementation) with mine clearance organizations</li> </ul> <p>Committee on Victim Assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 meeting</li> <li>▪ Follow-up efforts undertaken related to the Committee’s outreach mandate</li> <li>▪ Initial discussions with 1 Committee Member on supporting a special initiative</li> </ul> <p>Committee on Article 5 Implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 meeting</li> <li>▪ 8 bilateral meetings with States Parties</li> <li>▪ 1 meeting with national mine action directors</li> <li>▪ 3 meetings (jointly with the Committee on Cooperation and Assistance) with mine clearance organizations</li> <li>▪ Provided a draft generic set of “preliminary observations”</li> </ul> <p>Committee on Cooperative Compliance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 meetings (including one with the ICBL)</li> </ul>
<p>Provide advice and technical support to States Parties (...) on the Sponsorship Programme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop strategic plans for the Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme for the intersessional meetings and the 14MSP and act on the decisions of the Sponsorship Programme’s Donors’ Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 meeting with the Sponsorship Programme Coordinator</li> <li>▪ Provided background information on the programmes’s financial status</li> </ul>
<p>Provide advice and technical support to States Parties on the implementation (...) of the Convention.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Write to each State Party to ask whether it is a “State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control.”</li> <li>▪ Provide each “State Party with mine victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control” advice on acting on the victim assistance commitments contained in the Maputo Action Plan.</li> <li>▪ Carry out missions to State Parties with mine victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control to offer more in-depth advisory services to act on commitments contained in the Maputo Action Plan.</li> <li>▪ Provide each State Party that has been requested / encouraged by Meetings of the States Parties / Review Conferences to act upon decisions pertaining to its implementation of Article 5 advice and support to enable it to act on these decisions.</li> <li>▪ Provide each State Party with Article 5 deadlines in 2015 and 2016 advice and support to enable them to either prepare and submit, on time, an extension request, or prepare and table a declaration of completion.</li> <li>▪ Carry out missions to State Parties that are in the process of implementing Article 5 to offer more in-depth advisory services in preparing an Article 5 extension request or to otherwise act upon decisions pertaining to the implementation of Article 5.</li> <li>▪ Provide support to each State Party in the process of implementing Article 4 of the Convention, if requested, and to each State Party that reports previously unknown stockpiles.</li> <li>▪ Support meetings convened by the Article 7 Contact Group Coordinator.</li> <li>▪ Provide advice to all States Parties to assist them in acting on their transparency obligations under Article 7 of the Convention and transparency commitments in the Maputo Action Plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 32 communications (e.g. emails, letters, Skype, etc.), including 5 bilateral meetings, to advise 15 States Parties on acting on the victim assistance commitments contained in the Maputo Action Plan.</li> <li>▪ 40 communications, including 14 bilateral meetings, to advise 24 States Parties on Article 5 matters</li> <li>▪ Each State Party with an Article 5 deadline in 2015 has been provided with advice</li> <li>▪ Participation in a national workshop on Article 5 implementation in Turkey<sup>4</sup></li> <li>▪ 1 State Party with Article 4 obligations provided with advice at its request.</li> <li>▪ 1 State Party with Article 9 obligations provided with advice at its request.</li> <li>▪ 2 communications, including 1 bilateral meeting, with one State Party in the process of preparing an initial transparency report.</li> </ul>
<p>Provide advice and technical support to States Parties on the universalization (...) of the Convention.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support meetings convened by the Universalization Contact Group Coordinator and furnish background information as required.</li> </ul>	

<sup>1</sup> The ISU’s mandate is contained in the “Directive by the States Parties to the Implementation Support Unit”, which was adopted by the 2010 10MSP pursuant to the Final Report and Recommendations of the “ISU Task Force”, which oversaw the 2010 evaluation of the ISU.

<sup>2</sup> The ISU’s 2015 planned activities (and the expected outputs and outcomes of these activities) are contained in the ISU’s 2015 work plan, which was adopted at the Third Review Conference.

<sup>3</sup> The part of the mandate that relates to support to the Article 5 analysis process builds upon decisions taken at the 2006 7MSP that “requesting States Parties are encouraged, as necessary, to seek assistance from the Implementation Support Unit in the preparation of their requests” and that those charged with analysing requests have the opportunity of “using the ISU to provide support.”

<sup>4</sup> The ISU incurred no costs in carrying out this mission.

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Facilitate communication among the States Parties, and promote communication and information regarding the Convention towards States not Party and the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lead seminars or provide training on understanding the Convention and its operations.</li> <li>▪ Increase the Convention's presence on social media platforms and enhance the Convention's website.</li> <li>▪ Issue press releases.</li> <li>▪ Respond to inquiries from States Parties and other actors regarding matters pertaining to the Convention.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 seminars on the Convention in Geneva for representatives of States Parties</li> <li>▪ Information provided by 3 States Parties regarding Article 4 Maputo Action Plan Commitments, by 1 State Party regarding compliance, and by 1 State Party regarding Article 5 implementation made available on the Convention's website with all delegations informed</li> <li>▪ Various updates to the Convention's website, including 2 updates to the homepage</li> <li>▪ Ongoing use of Facebook to communicate about the Convention</li> <li>▪ New staff from the Gender and Mine Action Programme briefed on the Convention</li> <li>▪ 1 student group addressed in Geneva</li> <li>▪ 2 meetings with consultants carrying out evaluations of States Parties' mine action strategies</li> <li>▪ Contact with the City of Geneva regarding 14MSP communications aspects</li> </ul>
Keep records of formal and informal meetings under the Convention, and communicate, as appropriate, the decisions and priorities resulting from such meetings to States Parties and other stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintain and enhance the Convention's Documentation Centre.</li> <li>▪ Communicate the decisions and priorities resulting from the Convention's meetings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Documentation Centre enhanced through a compilation of country-specific information on victim assistance and mine clearance</li> </ul>
Liaise, and coordinate as appropriate, with relevant international organisations that participate in the work of the Convention, including the ICBL, the ICRC, the UN and the GICHD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Convene and / or participate in liaison meetings with the ICBL, ICRC, UN, GICHD and other actors that participate in the work of the Convention.</li> <li>▪ Carry out missions for more in-depth liaison with actors that participate in the work of the Convention and / or to communicate to wider audiences about the Convention (e.g., at symposiums, regional workshops, et cetera).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 15 liaison meetings with actors that participate in the work of the Convention, including with: ICBL, UNODA, UNDP, CCM interim ISU, UNOHCHR, Handicap International, HALO Trust, Geneva Call, International Trust Fund, GICHD</li> <li>▪ Participation in the 16-19 United Nations mine action programme directors' meeting</li> <li>▪ Participation in the 20 February meeting of the United Nations IMAS Review Board meeting</li> </ul>

**CORE ACTIVITIES AFFECTED BY ISU COST-CUTTING MEASURES:**

- The ISU had planned to carry-out three missions to States Parties to provide in-depth advisory services related to Maputo Action Plan victim assistance commitments. All three missions were intended to take place during the first quarter of 2015 in order to support the provision of high quality information in response to Actions #12 - #14. These missions have not taken place.
- The ISU had planned to carry-out five missions to States Parties to provide in-depth advisory services related to Article 5 implementation. Two missions were intended to take place during the first quarter of 2015 in order to support the preparation of Article 5 extension requests, including by supporting national stakeholders' meetings. These missions have not taken place.
- No work has been carried out on enhancing the *Platform for Partnerships*.
- The ISU has stopped updating the Convention's presence on some social media.
- No press releases have been issued, no contact has been made with journalists and no maintenance has taken place with respect to media contact lists.
- Changes to the Convention's homepage have been reduced from approximately one per week to approximately one per month. Efforts to mirror English-language changes to the website in French and Spanish have slowed or in some instances have not taken place.
- Support to individual States Parties in fulfilling commitments under the victim assistance section of the Maputo Action Plan will largely no longer be possible.
- There will be a reduction in activities to ensure good liaison with other actors in the field of victim assistance.
- There will be reduced responsiveness vis-à-vis the needs of the Committee on Victim Assistance.
- There will be further reductions in the timely completion of reporting requirements (given that, with the ISU's half-time support position remaining vacant, the fulfilment of administrative tasks has been spread amongst other staff).