

Update on 2013 ISU Activities

1 January – 30 May 2013

Mandate #1 and #2	<p><i>“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 Coordinating Committee and the Article 5 Extension Request Analysing Group”</i></p> <p><i>“Provide substantive and other support to the President, President-Designate, Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs in their work related to all such meetings”</i></p>
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- The ISU support the Co-Chairs with their preparations for the Intersessional Work Programme, including by compiling and distributing the programme for the week of 27 May, preparing and distributing letters from Co-Chairs inviting specific forms of participation at the May meetings, and distributing discussion papers.
- The ISU supported the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committees on Mine Clearance and Stockpile Destruction in carrying-out bilateral meetings with several States Parties that are in the process of implementing Article 4 and 5.
- The ISU supported the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance with their initiative to stage a two-day experts’ workshop on child victims, including by assisting in making arrangements for the workshop, distributing invitations and background documents, liaising with experts and delivering a presentation.
- The ISU supported the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Resources, Cooperation and Assistance by following up on their initiative to establish a “platform for partnerships” information exchange tool and by delivering a presentation on this matter at a briefing convened by the Co-Chairs and at the 30 May meeting of the Standing Committee.
- The ISU supported and advised the Thai Co-Chair of the Standing Committee on Resources, Cooperation and Assistance regarding its initiative to stage a symposium in Bangkok, including by preparing a project proposal and engaging with a State Party regarding support to this initiative, liaising with panellists and assisting Thailand with administrative arrangements.
- The ISU distributed notices and prepared background documentation for and supported four meetings of the Coordinating Committee.
- The ISU led two half-day briefings for participants of the Article 5 Analysing Group and supported four meetings of the group. In addition, the ISU distributed communications from the President to requesting States Parties and to members of the analysing group, made requests available on the Convention’s website, and liaised with requesting States Parties and expert organizations which were invited to provide input.
- The ISU supported the President of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties (12MSP) in all facets of his work, maintaining almost daily contact with him or his designate. Support to the President included providing support to the President in marking the 14th anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention and distributing the President’s communications to delegations on a variety of matters.

- The ISU supported the President-Designate of the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties (13MSP) in carrying out consultations with the Co-Chairs on preparations for the 13MSP in compiling input received in a draft discussion paper.
- The ISU supported and advised the President-Designate and host of the Third Review Conference on a variety of substantive and organizational matters, including by carrying out two missions in Mozambique.

Mandate #3	<i>“Provide advice and technical support to States Parties on the implementation and universalization, including on the Sponsorship Programme, of the Convention”</i>
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- The ISU supported the following States Parties in the preparation of extension requests or requests for deadlines that now have been, or will be, submitted for analysis prior to consideration at the 13MSP: Chad, Germany, Mozambique, Niger, Serbia, Sudan and Turkey. This support included ISU staff carrying out two missions to Mozambique and one mission to each of Serbia, Sudan and Turkey.
- The ISU supported Peru in a national workshop it convened, in partnership with Ecuador, to carry-out a mid-term assessment of the application of the mine clearance aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan. In addition, the ISU supported Peru in a national workshop it convened to carry-out a mid-term assessment of the application of the victim assistance aspects of the Cartagena Action Plan. (Note that the cost of these workshops is covered through enhanced funding provided by the European Union.) The ISU engaged Colombia (including by carrying out a mission), the DRC, Ethiopia and South Sudan regarding possible support activities (also to be funded through the European Union).
- The ISU carried out a mission to Angola to advise and support Angola on actions in follow up the 12MSP granting Angola an extension on its mine clearance deadline.
- The ISU provided a suggested course of action to the Sponsorship Programme Coordinator and the programme’s Donors’ Group, issued a notification for and supported meeting of the Donors’ Group, prepared and distributed a summary of that meeting, and executed the decisions of the Donors’ Group. The ISU liaised with several individual delegations regarding sponsorship support with this including responding to numerous inquiries from States Parties which normally receive sponsorship regarding the status of sponsorship for the May 2013 meetings.
- The ISU provided advice and support to Belgium in its capacity as the Coordinator of the Universalization Contact Group, including by participating in two small-group meetings on universalization convened by the Contact Group Coordinator. In addition, the ISU maintained frequent contact with Special Envoy, His Royal Highness Prince Mired Raad Al Hussein of Jordan on possible universalization efforts.
- The ISU provided advice and support to Belgium in its capacity as the Coordinator of the Article 7 Contact Group, included by distributing communications from the Coordinator. The ISU provided advice and support to numerous States Parties with respect to their reporting obligations.

- The ISU continued to support Australia by continuing with victim assistance research projects commissioned by Australia. This included research undertaken in Mozambique as part of the ISU Director’s 25-27 March mission to Maputo as well as other field research undertaken by a consultant, including to Afghanistan and Thailand. The ISU co-hosted with the ICBL a side-event on 28 May at which time the ISU presented some initial findings from one of these research efforts. (Note that the cost of these research efforts are covered through enhanced funding provided by Australia.)

Mandate #4	<i>“Facilitate communication among the States Parties, and promote communication and information regarding the Convention towards States not Party and the public”</i>
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- The ISU supported Germany in publicising its launch of a multi-media exhibit at the Palais des Nations marking the 20th anniversary of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, including by highlight this event on the Convention’s homepage and through social media.
- The ISU made contact with two States not party to the Convention regarding support to their accession processes.
- The ISU and the European Union, with the participation of Peru and the ICBL, convened an event to launch the EU Council Decision in support of the implementation of the Cartagena Action Plan.
- The ISU participating in the AU-ICRC convened workshop in Addis Ababa 5-7 March 2013 on fulfilling clearance obligations in Africa.
- The ISU participated in a colloquium on “keeping the spirit of the Ottawa Convention alive” in Brussels on 28 March, which was convened by the Belgium’s Ministry of Defence and various partners, delivering a presentation entitled “Communities as victims and survivors of landmines.”
- The ISU delivered two presentations at the 16th Meeting of National Mine Action Programme Directors and UN Advisors entitled, “Guidance provided by amended International Mine Action Standards for the implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention” and “The role of mine action authorities in the integration of victim assistance into comprehensive approaches.”
- The ISU delivered a statement on 15 April at the United Nations’ Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities entitled “the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: a common agenda.”
- The ISU delivered brief presentations to visiting delegations from Mongolia and Myanmar (as part of a broader GICHD engagement of these delegations) to inform them of the ISU and offer on-going support to them as they consider the Convention and continue to engage in the Convention’s meetings.
- The ISU produced and distributed five press releases and carried out related media outreach work.

- The ISU made several updates to the Convention’s website and social media presence.
- The ISU responded one student group and made arrangements to host others in the new future.

Mandate #5	<i>“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”</i>
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- The ISU continued efforts to ensure that the Convention’s Documentation Centre is up to date. This included compiling all historic documentation from the Coordinating Committee and making this available in the Convention’s Documentation Centre. In addition, the ISU compiled all documentation from three workshops it has supported in the Pacific region (in 2005, 2008 and 2012) and made this available in the Documentation Centre.

Mandate #6	<i>“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”</i>
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- The ISU maintained frequent contact with the ICBL and the ICRC, as well as with UNODA, UNMAS, the UNDP, the UNOHCHR, the WHO and other organizations on a variety of matters related to supporting the implementation process.
- The ISU liaised with a the provisional ISU of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), in particular on harmonized approaches as concerns victim assistance and to provide input to the VA research paper for the CCM intersessional meeting.
- The ISU had contact with a variety of other actors who are involved in the implementation process, including Human Rights Watch, the US Campaign to Ban Landmines, the Mines Advisory Group, HALO Trust and the James Madison University Centre for International Stabilisation and Recovery.
- The ISU continued to provide support to the GICHD, including by participating in weekly GICHD management board meetings, advising GICHD staff on matters that concern the UN’s International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) and on victim assistance, providing content for the GICHD’s internal newsletter, briefing new GICHD staff and participating in a GICHD briefing of Switzerland’s Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Financing of the ISU's 2013 work plan

(As of 30 May 2013)

REVENUE	
Contributions received 2013	
Albania	CHF1'736
Algeria	CHF6'043
Austria	CHF14'272
Bulgaria	CHF466
Cambodia	CHF2'805
Colombia	CHF13'689
Germany	CHF85'295
Jordan	CHF888
Turkey	CHF3'638
Subtotal contributions received for 2013 as of 30 May	CHF128'832
Carry-over	
Subtotal carry-over from 2012	CHF5'957
Total revenue received and expected as of 30 May	CHF134'789
EXPENSES	
Total budgeted expenses for 2013	CHF 940'694
FUNDING REQUIRED	
Budgeted expenses minus funds received to date	CHF 805'905