



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

2020 4th Quarter

Highlights

(1st October – 31st December)

Second Review Conference Part One



Presided over by H.E. Mr. Félix Baumann, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Conference on Disarmament, the first part of the Second Review Conference of States Parties to the CCM (2RC) took place from 25 to 27 November 2020. The Conference was held in virtual format with simultaneous interpretation in all six official languages of the UN. During the three-day conference, delegates deliberated on deadline extension requests and reviewed the thematic areas of the Convention. The Conference adopted the ISU 2021 work plan and budget, the estimated costs of the Tenth Meeting of States Parties (10MSP) and the 2RC interim report. The remaining decisions will be taken during Part Two of the 2RC.

Statements and documents of the meeting can be found on the [CCM website](#). The second part of the 2RC is scheduled to be held in hybrid format **from 4 to 5 February 2021** at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

Informal consultations on 2RC documents



In the lead up to the 2RC, Ambassador Félix Baumann convened informal meetings on 8 July, 30 September and 14 October 2020 in Geneva to facilitate exchanges on the elements of the Lausanne Action Plan (LAP) and Lausanne Declaration, and the working papers prepared by the Presidency on the Convention's machinery and the UN assessed contributions. During these meetings, States Parties and international organizations and institutions gathered to discuss the draft documents and decisions to be adopted at the Review Conference.

Extension request presentation preparation meetings

In preparation for Part One of the 2RC, the Swiss Presidency and the ISU facilitated meetings on 14 October and 17 November 2020 for States Parties with CCM Article 3 or 4 extension requests. The meetings allowed Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Lebanon and Peru to discuss the different modalities of presenting their extension requests during the Review Conference.



2RC Part One side events



Virtual side events took place on 25 and 26 November 2020 in the margins of the 2RC Part One. Events included one organized by Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA) to celebrate Croatia and Montenegro who achieved Article 4 completion before their Convention deadline of 1 August 2020. The Cluster Munition Monitor 2020 which was also launched on 25 November was followed by a briefing to discuss recent developments in cluster munition ban policy, contamination, clearance, casualties, and efforts to guarantee the rights and meet the needs of cluster munition victims. On 26 November, Mines Action Canada and the Government of Ireland hosted an informational event on how youth campaigners around the world are taking action to rid the world of cluster munitions. Finally, the EssentialTech Center of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL) held a webinar on how science and technology contributes to peace promotion, sustainable development and humanitarian practice.

Highlight on cluster munitions at Lugano Human Rights Film Festival



Photos by the CMC

On 17 October 2020, the screening of “Into the Fire” took place at the Lugano Human Rights Film Festival. The National Geographic Nobel Peace Prize short film depicts the work of a clearance team comprised of Yazidi women in Iraq. A panel discussion followed led by the Chief Prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), the CCM 2RC President, the GICHD Director, the Director of Swiss Limbs, and a representative of the Italian Campaign to Ban Landmines which is a CMC member organization. The film screening was complemented by the “Lasting Footprints” public exhibition organized by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the GICHD and was displayed in Lugano from 1 to 19 October 2020.

2020 CCM UNGA resolution adopted with zero NO votes

The 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 75) adopted the 2020 resolution in support of CCM implementation (document A/RES/75/62) by a vote of 147 in favour, none against and 38 abstentions. A separate vote on the preambular paragraph 14 of the resolution yielded a vote of 154 in favour, none against and 19 abstentions. For the first time since 2015, the annual CCM resolution that urges all States that have not yet done so “to join as soon as possible” was adopted with no vote against it. This reflects the growing universal support for the humanitarian imperative and concerns caused by cluster munitions.



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