General Status and Operation Gender Focal Points Terms of Reference

Submitted by France and Namibia (Coordinators on General Status and Operation of the Convention)

I. Background

1. The Second Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), decided that the Coordinators on General Status and Operation (hereafter referred as “Gender Focal Points”) would act as the focal points of the Convention to provide advice to States Parties on gender mainstreaming and to ensure that matters related to gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities are taken into account in the implementation of the Lausanne Action Plan (LAP), in cooperation with the other thematic Coordinators.

II. Purpose

2. The Gender Focal Points should remind States to ensure that the different needs, vulnerabilities and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men from diverse populations and all ages are considered and inform the implementation of the Convention in order to deliver an inclusive approach, as well as strive to remove all barriers to full, equal and meaningful gender-balanced participation in implementation activities at the national level and in the Convention’s machinery, including its meetings.

3. The Gender Focal Points should encourage systematic action and report on the mainstreaming of gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people, to support the work of the States Parties, the Presidency, the Coordination Committees as well as the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) in this regard.

III. Participants

4. The activities mentioned in these Terms of Reference should be undertaken by the representatives from the Gender Focal Points supported by the CCM Implementation Support Unit (ISU).
IV. Consultations

5. The Gender Focal Points should consult a broad range of stakeholders in developing its deliverables, including but not limited to representatives from the States Parties’ national authorities and civil society involved in the work of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

V. Meetings

6. The Gender Focal Points should hold at least quarterly meetings, with the ISU, and relevant stakeholders.

VI. Activities

7. In accordance with the LAP, the CCM Gender Focal Points could work on the following activities:
   
   (a) Assess the extent to which gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people have been addressed in the reports submitted by States Parties.
   
   (b) Promote the obligation to report on matters related to gender and the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities.
   
   (c) Provide advice and support in a cooperative manner to States Parties on the fulfilment of the gender, disability and age-related targets set out in the LAP.
   
   (d) Prepare and submit to the States Parties in advance of Meetings of the States Parties an analysis of the information reported on gender and on the diverse needs and experiences of people in affected communities.
   
   (e) Facilitate discussion and exchange of information among States Parties on progress and challenges to implement the actions on gender and the diversity of populations set out in the Lausanne Action Plan.
   
   (f) Support regional or national dialogues knowledge-sharing and best practices exchange on integrating a gender, disability and age perspective in the implementation of the treaty.

8. The Gender Focal Points could organise their work as best suited for the States Parties and share information on progress and planned activities with the Presidency and the Coordination Committees at the meetings of the Coordination Committee.

VII. Amendments

9. Once approved by the Tenth Meeting of States Parties (10MSP) these Terms of Reference are effective until they are amended in writing after consultation and agreement by the States Parties at a Meeting of States Parties or by a Review Conference.