WORKSHOP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

Co-organized with
the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs
of the Republic of Croatia

Dates 15 - 18 May 2012
Venue RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation, Raktje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Croatia.

Background The Convention on Cluster Munitions was opened for signature in Oslo, Norway, on 2 December 2008. By February 2010, the required 30 ratifications were achieved and the Convention entered into force on 1 August 2010, thereby becoming international legally binding piece of legislation.

With a view to encouraging the States Parties to the Convention to fulfill their international obligations under the Convention and recognizing the need for international cooperation and assistance, RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia have decided to co-organize a workshop on the implementation of the Convention in South Eastern Europe.

Purpose & Objectives
The purpose of this workshop is to share the latest developments related to the implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

The objectives of the workshop are:
• To provide the participants with an overview of the provisions of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, particularly the obligations of the States Parties to the Convention;
• To inform the participants about the results of the second meeting of States Parties to the Convention held in Beirut, Lebanon, from 12 to 16 September 2011;
• To provide a forum for discussion on the implementation of the Convention in South Eastern Europe with a focus on national strategies, implementation plans, progress reports, possible international and regional cooperation and needs for support from outside the region.

Participants Approximately 30 participants, representing different countries, relevant ministries, agencies and organizations, are expected to attend. Lecturers include experts willing to share their expertise and experiences, coming from different cluster munitions-affected and non-affected states, as well as international organizations from both governmental and non-governmental sectors (Cluster Munitions Coalition (CMC), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GIGHD), South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC), Mine Action Centres).

Methodology The event will take place in the form of a workshop. It will give national and international experts, representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations an opportunity to share their experience and jointly address challenges concerning the implementation of the Convention. Group discussions, focusing on particular areas of implementation, will follow the presentations. The groups will then present their findings in a plenary session.

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