US Campaign to Ban Landmines – US Cluster Munition Coalition (February 2021)

Overarching Strategic Goals

- The United States forswear antipersonnel landmines and join the Mine Ban Treaty.
- The United States forswear cluster munitions and join the Convention on Cluster Munitions.
- The United States continues to be a leading financial supporter to global mine action.

2021-2022 Goals

Landmines

- Biden reverses the 2020 Trump policy to return, at minimum, to 2014 Obama policy
- Biden administration publicly commits to the goal of joining Mine Ban Treaty and launches review of necessary steps to achieve it.
- Congress takes steps to support the goal of joining the Mine Ban Treaty, including through joint letters to the administration or introduction of legislation that achieves the same policy standard (prohibiting use, transfer, production, etc.) as the Mine Ban Treaty

Cluster Munitions

- Biden reverses the Trump policy to return, at minimum, to Obama policy.
- Biden administration attends Convention on Cluster Munitions annual meetings

Campaign - institutionally

- Regrow/expand active member organization list
- Secure significant financial support to enable dedicated staff member(s)

2021-2022 Key Activities

Administration engagement

- Meet with the Biden NSC team by March 30, and follow up with additional executive branch departments as warranted.
- Update 1-pager to reflect Biden's options now that he is in-office

Congressional engagement

- Identify 3-5 champion offices and continue to educate Congressional staffers
- Advocate for a hearing on landmines and/or cluster munitions in Armed Services, Foreign Affairs or Defense Approps -- supply at least 1 witness from the USCBL-USCMC
- Lobby, as necessary, to cut funding to research and development of weapons inconsistent with the treaties in defense appropriations, and increase funding to mine clearance and victim assistance in SFOPs

Public Education/Awareness - Popular engagement

- Draft model letter to President Biden asking him to honor his campaign pledge on antipersonnel landmines and engage citizens in personalizing the letter and sending them to the White House
- Create a petition for online signatures along the lines of the campaign goals above, publicize the petition and eventually present the list of signatures to the White House

Op-Ed and Media engagement

- Publish letters to the editor in major press outlets calling on the Biden Administration to honor its commitment to reverse to prior policy (or, once honored, to move the joining Mine Ban Treaty)
- Get a high-profile signer to byline an op-ed on the subject

Other - campaign institutional capacity

Redo our 2020 circle of requests to potential foundation donors for support of the USCBL/USCMC