The First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (2010)

Constitution on Cluster Munitions

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First Meeting of States Parties
Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic
9–12 November 2010

Final document

I. Introduction

1. Article 11 titled “Meetings of States Parties” of the Convention on Cluster Munitions reads as follows:

“1. The States Parties shall meet regularly in order to consider and, where necessary, take decisions in respect of any matter with regard to the application or implementation of this Convention, including:

(a) The operation and status of this Convention;
(b) Matters arising from the reports submitted under the provisions of this Convention;
(c) International cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6 of this Convention;
(d) The development of technologies to clear cluster munition remnants;
(e) Submissions of States Parties under Articles 8 and 10 of this Convention; and
(f) Submissions of States Parties as provided for in Articles 3 and 4 of this Convention.

2. The first Meeting of States Parties shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations within one year of entry into force of this Convention. The subsequent meetings shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations annually until the first Review Conference.

3. States not party to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organisations or institutions, regional organisations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and relevant non-governmental organisations may be invited to attend these meetings as observers in accordance with the agreed rules of procedure.”

2. By resolution A/RES/64/36, dated 2 December 2009, the General Assembly of the United Nations “welcome[d] the offer of the Government of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic to host the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions following its entry into force [and] requeste[d] the Secretary-General, in
accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention following its entry into force”

3. Pursuant to Article 11 (2) of the Convention, paragraph 2 of resolution A/RES/64/36, and the established practice, twenty-six States which had submitted their instruments of ratification with the Depository co-signed a letter, dated 17 March 2010, addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations inviting him to convene the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on 9 - 12 November 2010 in Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic

4. Accordingly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations convened the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention by his note verbale reference No.ODA/31-2010/CCM, dated 5 May 2010, and invited all States parties as well as the States not parties to the Convention, to participate in it.

5. To prepare for the First Meeting of States Parties, a preparatory meeting was held at Geneva on 6 September 2010. The preparatory meeting considered a provisional agenda, provisional programme of work, draft rules of procedure and draft cost estimates for the First Meeting of States Parties and recommended them for adoption by the First Meeting. A Draft Vientiane Declaration, draft Vientiane Action Plan, draft Reporting formats under Article 7 of the Convention, as well as a draft Work programme 2011 were also presented.

II. Organization of the First Meeting

6. The First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention was held at Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic republic, from 9 to 12 November 2010.

7. The following States Parties to the Convention participated in the work of the Meeting: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Croatia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, France, Germany, Holy See, Ireland, Japan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mexico, Montenegro, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Spain, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, and Zambia.

8. The following States which have ratified the Convention, but for which it is not yet in force, participated in the work of the Meeting: Antigua and Barbuda, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Comoros, Guatemala, Lebanon, Mali, and Monaco.

9. The following Signatory States to the Convention participated in the work of the Meeting as observers: Afghanistan, Angola, Australia, Benin, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, El Salvador, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iraq, Italy, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Palau, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Uganda, and United Republic of Tanzania.

10. Argentina, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Finland, Jordan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Palestine, Poland, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, and Zimbabwe also participated in the work of the Meeting as observers.

12. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), and Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) also participated in the work of the Meeting as observers, pursuant to Rule 1(2) of the Rules of Procedure.

13. The representatives of the following relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations took part in the work of the Meeting as observers, pursuant to Rule 1(3) of the Rules of Procedure: Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Danish Demining Group, European Union, HALO Trust, International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance Clearance (ITF), Iraqi Red Crescent Society, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Mine Action Information Center (James Madison University), and Poverty Reduction and Development Association (PORDEA).

III. Work of the First Meeting

14. On 9 November 2010, the Meeting was opened by Ambassador Gerard Corr of Ireland, Chairperson of the preparatory meeting for the First Meeting of States Parties.

15. The Meeting held eight plenary meetings. At its first plenary meeting, on 9 November 2010, the Meeting confirmed by acclamation Mr. Thongloun Sisoulith, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lao People’s Democratic Republic as President of the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention. He was assisted by Friends of the President, as follows: Australia on “Clearance”, Austria on “Victim Assistance”, Belgium on “Reporting Formats”, Canada on “2011 Work plan and Architecture”, Germany on “Stockpile Destruction”, Ireland on “Procedural Matters and Preparatory Process”, Japan on “Universalization”, New Zealand on “National Implementation Measures”, Norway on “Vientiane Action Plan”, and South Africa on “International Cooperation and Assistance”.

16. At the same plenary meeting, Belgium, Japan, Mexico, and Zambia were elected by acclamation as Vice-Presidents of the Meeting.

17. At the same meeting Mr. Peter Kolarov, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, Geneva Branch, was confirmed as Secretary-General of the Meeting.

18. At the same plenary meeting, the Meeting adopted its agenda, as contained in CCM/MSP/2010/1, the programme of work, as contained in CCM/MSP/2010/2, and the Rules of Procedure, as contained in CCM/MSP/2010/3. The Meeting also considered the financial arrangements for the session and adopted its estimated costs, as contained in CCM/MSP/2010/4.

19. At the same plenary meeting, messages were delivered by Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, by Ms. Christine Beerli, Vice-President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and by Mr. Thomas Nash, Coordinator of the Cluster Munition Coalition.

20. The First Meeting of States Parties considered documents CCM/MSP/2010/1 to CCM/MSP/2010/4 and CCM/MSP/2010/WP.1 to CCM/MSP/2010/WP.6, as listed in Annex III. These documents are available in all official languages through the Official

IV. DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

21. At its last plenary meeting, on 12 November 2010, the Meeting adopted the Vientiane Declaration, as contained in Annex I, and the Vientiane Action Plan, as contained in Annex II. The meeting also adopted the Reporting Formats for Article 7 of the Convention, as contained in CCM/MSP/2010/WP.4, and recommended them for use by the States Parties.

22. At the same plenary meeting the Meeting decided that the President’s paper on the work programme (CCM/MSP/2010/WP.2) should guide the work programme for 2011 and that the President, assisted by such Friends as required, will organize and conduct an interim, informal intersessional meeting designed to conduct thematic discussions on substantive issues including:
   (a) General status and operation of the Convention
   (b) Victim assistance
   (c) Clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants and risk reduction education
   (d) Stockpile destruction including retention
   (e) Universalization
   (f) Transparency
   (g) National implementation measures
   (h) Cooperation and assistance

23. The Meeting also encouraged the President to identify the Friends in order to assist in ensuring continued substantive work and the preparation of the intersessional meeting and to meet regularly with the Friends, together with the United Nations, International Committee of the Red Cross, Cluster Munition Coalition and other relevant organizations in order to coordinate their work.

24. The Meeting decided that the informal intersessional meeting should include recommendations for consideration by States Parties at the Second Meeting of States Parties regarding implementation architecture and means to coordinate the work of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, future intersessional work, and whether to establish an Implementation Support Unit and, if so, the nature of the Implementation Support Unit.

25. The Meeting decided that an interim informal intersessional meeting would take place in Geneva, Switzerland from 27 to 30 June, 2011.

26. The Meeting decided that the informal intersessional meeting should be held in English, French and Spanish supported through voluntary funding.

27. The Meeting welcomed the appointment by the President of Ms. Sara Sekkenes, UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, as the President’s Executive Coordinator, and decided to invite the Executive Coordinator assisted by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, to provide the necessary conference support for this intersessional meeting. Costs for these activities would be covered by voluntary earmarked contributions to the UNDP thematic trust fund for crisis prevention and recovery.
28. The Meeting decided to designate His Excellency Dr. Ali Al-Chami, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of Lebanon as the President of the Second Meeting of States Parties, assisted by the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations in Geneva. It was also decided to hold the Second Meeting of States Parties in Beirut, Lebanon from 12 to 16 September 2011.

29. The Meeting considered the financial arrangements for the Second Meeting of States Parties and recommended them for adoption by the Second Meeting, as contained in CCM/MSP/2010/WP.5.

30. At the same plenary meeting, on 12 November 2010, the First Meeting of States Parties adopted its procedural report, as contained in documents CCM/MSP/2010/CRP.1 and CCM/MSP/2010/CRP.2 which is being issued as document CCM/MSP/2010/5.
Annex I

No cluster munitions; from vision to action

The 2010 Vientiane Declaration
(as adopted at the final plenary meeting on 12 November 2010)

1. We, the representatives of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, together with representatives from other States present as signatories, the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Cluster Munition Coalition, and other international and national organizations and institutions, gathered for the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention in Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, one of the most severely affected States, affirm our commitment to end the harm caused by cluster munitions.

2. We note with satisfaction that the Convention on Cluster Munitions establishes a categorical ban on cluster munitions and requires the elimination of stockpiles, the clearance of contaminated land and the provision of assistance to victims. By these actions it aims to protect civilians throughout the world from future use and to improve the lives of those already impacted by these weapons.

3. Inspired by the achievements of many States in addressing the harm caused by cluster munitions we recognize the need to accelerate our work. As we enter this new phase of implementation of the Convention, we must now turn our vision into action and the Vientiane Action Plan translates the legal obligations of States Parties into concrete actions. We will strengthen our efforts to raise the necessary national and international resources to overcome the remaining challenges and deliver tangible results and dividends to those individuals and communities that need continued support.

Decades of harm

4. Due to their wide area effects and high level of unexploded ordnance, cluster munitions kill indiscriminately and cause unacceptable harm to women, men, boys and girls both during and long after conflicts. They constitute a serious threat to peace, human security and development. Cluster munition remnants have severe consequences for affected individuals and their communities, and pose severe impediments to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, poverty eradication and social and economic development.

Reducing the risks

5. We recognize the rights of cluster munition victims and State Parties’ obligation to provide them with adequate age- and gender-sensitive assistance, including medical care, rehabilitation, psychological support and social and economic inclusion.

6. Affected and non-affected States need to cooperate and mobilize resources to assist victims, provide risk reduction education, clearance of cluster munition remnants and destruction of stockpiled cluster munitions. We welcome the many initiatives already taken by States Parties towards these goals and encourage all others to enhance their efforts to rapidly advance the full implementation of the Convention.
7. We commend the States Parties and also States not party that have completed the clearance of contaminated areas and/or destruction of their cluster munition stockpiles even in advance of the Convention’s entry into force.

8. We are concerned that billions of cluster sub-munitions are still stockpiled and that the extensive contaminated areas that remain pose a continued threat of new human suffering. Accelerated clearance and destruction of cluster munitions is an urgent imperative and risk reduction education is critical to ensure awareness of the dangers posed to civilians who live in or come in proximity to contaminated areas.

9. We welcome the 108 States that have signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the 46 States that have ratified it. This includes most of the affected countries and many former users, producers and stockpilers. We welcome new States Parties, call on all signatories to ratify and urge States not yet party to the Convention to join as soon as possible and we condemn the use of cluster munitions that causes unacceptable harm to civilian populations and objects, by any actor. Our aim is universal adherence to the Convention.

10. We are proud that the Convention is a contribution to the strengthening of International Humanitarian Law. It sets a new standard by which states will be judged. We believe the sea change in the opinion of governments around the world towards this weapon will continue.

11. Our achievements are the result of partnership between States, international organizations and civil society. The Oslo Process is proof that it is possible for this partnership to take bold, visionary and decisive action to solve our collective problems and is a testament to the importance of humanitarian disarmament in global affairs. As long as people remain at risk, we are compelled to do more to achieve our collective goal – a world with no cluster munitions.

Achieving a world free of cluster munitions

12. To achieve our goal of a world free of cluster munitions, States Parties hereby commit to:

(a) implement fully all of the obligations under the Convention, including ceasing the use, development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention and transfer of cluster munitions, and to honour our commitments in the Vientiane Action Plan;

(b) accelerate progress on clearance and stockpile destruction, expand the coverage of services for victims and survivors and increase the level of resources provided for these tasks so that all States Parties can fulfill their obligations within the deadlines provided under the Convention, aiming to save lives and limbs, protect personal security and integrity and preserve livelihoods;

(c) ensure an early start to the destruction of cluster munition stockpiled in our States with the aim to avoid any extension requests;

(d) enhance our cooperation with international organizations and civil society to immediately accelerate efforts to rapidly advance the full implementation of the Convention, particularly in the areas of clearance, victim assistance and stockpile destruction;

(e) provide timely and thorough transparency reports on all obligations under this Convention in order to identify needs, potential challenges and to note and communicate progress;
(f) fulfill our legal obligation to promote the norms of the Convention which sets a new standard for the conduct of armed conflict and should be accepted by all States.
Annex II

Vientiane Action Plan
(as adopted at the final plenary meeting on 12 November 2010)

I. Introduction

1. This Action Plan was adopted by the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, 9-12 November 2010, in consultation with the United Nations, The International Committee of the Red Cross and the Cluster Munition Coalition and other partners.

2. The objective of this Action Plan is to ensure effective and timely implementation of the provisions of the CCM following the First Meeting of States. The Plan sets out concrete and measurable steps, actions and targets to be completed within specific time periods and defines roles and responsibilities. The actions are not legal requirements, but designed to assist States Parties and other relevant actors in their practical implementation of the Convention, and thus to support States Parties in meeting their obligations. With the adoption of this plan, states parties send a strong message on their commitment to the rapid implementation of the Convention.

3. The Action Plan is both a priority list for States Parties and other implementation actors, and a tool to monitor implementation progress. Some actions are designed as milestones to ensure timely implementation of comprehensive and resource intensive tasks. Others are designed to assist States Parties in structuring their response to their commitments under the Convention.

4. The Action Plan aims to ensure that the Convention can have immediate impact on the ground, address current implementation challenges, react to future developments, and to reflect changes in implementation challenges. The Plan includes actions to be taken in the year leading up to the Second Meeting of States Parties as well as actions to be undertaken prior to the First Review Conference of the Convention. Specific actions may be revised or substituted at future Meetings of States Parties, if necessary, such as when States Parties succeed in meeting their obligations and new circumstances arise due to additional States joining the Convention.

5. The States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions agree on the following actions in order to fulfil their ultimate aim of ending for all time to the suffering and casualties caused by cluster munitions:

II. Partnerships

6. All States Parties will:

   Action #1 Recognize, and continue to further develop, the partnerships underpinning the Convention, between affected and non-affected states, the Cluster Munition Coalition, the United Nations system, the International Committee of the Red Cross, national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and their International Federation, the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining, international and regional organizations, cluster munition survivors and victims and their representative organizations, and other civil society organizations.
III. Universalisation

7. All States Parties will

**Action #2** Seize opportunities in relevant forums to promote adherence to the Convention as soon as possible.

**Action #3** Encourage and support States not Party to become States Parties in time for the Second Meeting of States Parties.

**Action #4** Cooperate with other States Parties and other relevant partners including international organisations and civil society to promote the universalization of the Convention and its norms.

**Action #5** Acknowledge the obstacles and challenges facing States not Party to the Convention and help to find solutions to facilitate their eventual adherence to the Convention, including the consideration of the provision of assistance to States that due to resource limitations may have difficulties in implementing the Convention’s provisions.

**Action #6** Discourage in every way possible all use, development, production, stockpiling and transfer of cluster munitions.

**Action #7** Support, where appropriate, the efforts of States not Party to the Convention that share the humanitarian concerns caused by cluster munitions, in participating in the formal and informal meetings of the Convention in order to encourage them to become States Parties to the Convention.

IV. Stockpile destruction

8. States Parties with cluster munition stockpiles will:

**Action #8** Endeavour to, within one year of entry into force for that State Party, have a plan in place for the destruction of stocks that includes a timeline and budget and begin physical destruction as soon as possible.

**Action #9** Ensure that problems that may cause obstacles to planned destruction are disclosed in a timely manner to States Parties and relevant organizations in situations where assistance is required to meet stockpile destruction obligations.

V. Clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants and risk reduction activities

9. States Parties that have reported cluster munition contaminated areas under their jurisdiction or control will:

**Action #10** Increase in 2011 their capacities for clearance and risk reduction activities on the basis of plans and proposals presented at and following the First Meeting of States Parties, as national and international resources become available.

**Action #11** As soon as areas under its jurisdiction or control are known to be contaminated by cluster munition remnants, take all feasible measures to prevent further civilian casualties by effectively preventing unintentional civilian access to cluster munition contaminated areas.

**Action #12** Endeavour to, within one year of entry into force for that State Party, identify as precisely as possible locations and size of all cluster munition contaminated areas under their jurisdiction or control, prioritize clearance and risk reduction education based on
assessed level of impact, and report this information as required by Article 7, as well as to the Meeting of States Parties.

**Action #13** Endeavour to, within one year of entry into force for that State Party, systematically use contamination and prioritisation information to develop and begin implementing a national clearance plan, which includes transparent and consistent criteria for clearance priorities, promotes risk reduction education, and builds, where appropriate, upon existing structures, experiences, related plans and methodologies. The national clearance plan should be linked to broader country development plans and related mine action plans, where appropriate, and encourage national ownership and commitment.

**Action #14** Ensure that affected communities are informed of, and included in, the development of national clearance plans, planning and prioritisation of clearance activities and land release, by utilising community liaison or similar means to ensure they are able to participate in a meaningful and gender-sensitive manner.

**Action #15** Apply all available and relevant methods of non-technical survey, technical survey and clearance for full and expedient implementation of Article 4, which should be included within national standards, policies and procedures, and share best practices and lessons learnt with other States Parties.

**Action #16** Provide annually precise and comprehensive information on the size and location of cluster munition contaminated areas released. This information should be disaggregated by release methods.

**Action #17** Develop and provide risk reduction education programmes that focus on preventing and proving alternatives to risk-taking behaviour and target the most at-risk populations. Risk reduction education programmes should be tailored to the needs of affected communities, gender sensitive and age appropriate, consistent with national and international standards and integrated into clearance, survey and victim assistance activities. Risk reduction education activities should also be integrated, as appropriate, into schools, community-based programs and public information campaigns. Large-scale awareness rising should be mainly used in immediate post-conflict situations.

10. All States Parties will:

**Action #18** Strive to ensure that States Parties affected by cluster munitions remnants fulfil their obligations under Article 4, paragraph 1, as expeditiously as possible, and that the least number of States Parties possible will be compelled to request an extension in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 4, paragraphs 5 to 8, of the Convention.

**Action #19** Monitor and actively promote the achievement of clearance goals and the identification of assistance needs, making full use of the transparency measures set out in Article 7, the Meetings of States Parties, intersessional work and regional meetings as arenas for affected States Parties to present their challenges, plans, progress and priorities for assistance.

## VI. Victim assistance

11. States Parties with cluster munition victims in areas under their jurisdiction or control will:

**Action #20** Increase in 2011 their capacities to assist cluster munition victims on the basis of plans and proposals presented at and following the First Meeting of States Parties, as national and international resources become available.

**Action #21** Designate a focal point within the government to coordinate the development, implementation, and monitoring of victim assistance policies and plans in
accordance with Article 5, paragraph 2, within six months of the Convention’s entry into force for that State Party and make sure that the focal point has the authority, expertise and adequate resources to carry out its task.

**Action #22** Collect all necessary data, disaggregated by sex and age, and assess the needs and priorities of cluster munition victims within one year of the Convention’s entry into force for that State Party. Such data should be made available to all relevant stakeholders and contribute to national injury surveillance and other relevant data collection systems for use in programme planning.

**Action #23** Integrate the implementation of the victim assistance provisions of this Convention in existing coordination mechanisms, such as coordination systems created under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) or other relevant Conventions. In the absence of such mechanisms, establish such a coordination mechanism actively involving cluster munition victims and their representative organizations as well as relevant health, rehabilitation, social services, education, employment, gender and disability rights experts within one year of the Convention’s entry into force for that State Party.

**Action #24** Ensure that existing victim assistance and/or disability plans can ensure fulfilment of the victim assistance obligations under the Convention or adapt such plans accordingly. States Parties that have not yet developed such a plan, should do so and ensure that a comprehensive national plan of action and budget address the needs and human rights of cluster munition and other ERW victims.

**Action #25** Review the availability, accessibility and quality of services in the areas of medical care, rehabilitation and psychological support, economic and social inclusion, and identify which barriers prevent access to these services for cluster munition victims. Take immediate action to increase availability and accessibility of services also in remote and rural areas so as to remove the identified barriers and to guarantee the implementation of quality services.

**Action #26** Within one year of the Convention entering into force for that state, review national laws and policies, with a view to meeting the needs and protecting the human rights of cluster munition victims, ensuring that national legal and policy frameworks do not discriminate against or among cluster munition victims and those who have suffered injuries or disabilities from other causes. Implement relevant national laws and policies, which were newly developed or modified as needed, no later than the First Review Conference of the Convention.

**Action #27** Raise awareness among cluster munition victims about their rights and available services, as well as within government authorities, service providers and the general public to foster respect for the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, including cluster munition victims.

**Action #28** Implement existing international standards, guidelines and recommendations in the areas of medical care, rehabilitation and psychological support as well as social and economic inclusion, inter alia through education, training and employment incentive programmes of persons with disabilities in both public and private sectors, as well as through the micro-crediting possibilities and best practices, recognizing in particular the vulnerability of women with disabilities.

**Action #29** Mobilize adequate national and international resources through existing and innovative sources of financing, bearing in mind the immediate and long-term needs of cluster munition victims.

12. All States Parties, in support of the implementation of Article 5, will seek to:
Action #30 Encourage and enable States Parties to include cluster munitions victims and their representative organisations in the work of the convention in a manner that is gender and age sensitive, sustainable, meaningful and non-discriminatory.

Action #31 Include relevant experts, including clusters munitions survivors, and representatives of disabled persons organisations, to be part of their delegations in all convention related activities.

Action #32 Promote and enhance the capacity of women, men and organizations of survivors as well as other national organisations and institutions delivering victim assistance services, including by financial and technical resources, effective leadership and management training, exchange programmes, with a view to strengthening national ownership and sustainability.

VII. International cooperation and assistance

13. States Parties with obligations to destroy stockpiles, clear affected areas and assist victims should:

Action #33 Endeavour to, within one year after entry into force for that state party, develop or update comprehensive national plans for meeting all obligations concerning stockpile destruction, clearance and victim assistance, identify resources currently available to meet these obligations and identify needs for international cooperation and assistance.

Action #34 Identify and engage with relevant civil society groups, corporations, international organisations, and other States Parties that may be in a position to assist in addressing these gaps.

Action #35 Identify other affected States Parties as soon as possible and use meetings of the Convention and other bilateral and regional opportunities to exchange of information and technical expertise so as to be able to gain from each other’s experience in implementation of the Convention.

Action #36 Promote technical cooperation, information exchange on good practices and other forms of mutual assistance with other affected States Parties to take advantage of the knowledge and expertise acquired in the course of fulfilling their obligations.

14. States Parties in a position to do so should undertake the following:

Action #37 Respond to requests for assistance to increase clearance, victim assistance and stockpile destruction work by States Parties made at and following the First Meeting of States Parties to ensure that the pace and effectiveness of these activities increases in 2011 and beyond.

Action #38 Promptly assist States Parties that have requested support for implementing their victim assistance, clearance, risk reduction education, and stockpile destruction obligations, respond to their national priorities in these areas, and strive to ensure continuity, predictability and sustainability of resource commitments.

Action #39 Support the cluster munitions related programming being undertaken by civil society actors, United Nations and international organisations.

Action #40 Support cluster munitions programmes by providing funding to facilitate long-term planning for these programmes, under national management and ownership, paying particular attention to the specific needs and circumstances of the least developed States Parties, and ensuring that actions to address the consequences of cluster munitions remains a high priority, including in broader humanitarian, development assistance, disarmament and security programmes.
**Action #41** Support, as appropriate, actions to address cluster munition contamination and victim assistance in areas where non-state actors operate, including by facilitating access for humanitarian organisations.

**Action #42** Inform affected States Parties of resources, capacities and programmes available for supporting stockpile destruction, clearance and victim assistance

15. All States Parties will:

**Action #43** Ensure that the Convention and its informal and formal implementation mechanisms include and provide a specific and effective framework to discuss assistance and international cooperation issues in order to identify needs and mobilise resources as well as to allow other States to present lessons learned and good practices by other States.

**Action #44** Strive to ensure that the cluster munitions related activities of the United Nations, national and international non-governmental organisations and other actors, where relevant, are incorporated into national planning frameworks and are consistent with national priorities and international obligations.

**Action #45** Promote cooperation amongst all States Parties in order to identify possible areas of support and cooperation such as exchange of information and technical expertise with a view to ensuring the full implementation of the Convention.

**Action #46** Initiate and promote bilateral and regional cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, in sharing experience, good practices, resources, technology and expertise to ensure the full implementation of the Convention.

**Action #47** Share good practices at meetings of the CCM through their experience in destroying cluster munitions stockpiles, clearing cluster munition remnants and/or providing assistance to victims, especially in response to specific calls for assistance from other States Parties.

**Action #48** Exchange views and share experiences in a cooperative and informal manner on practical implementation of the various provisions of the Convention pertaining to international cooperation and assistance.

**Action #49** Strengthen the partnerships between affected and non-affected States Parties and among affected States Parties to identify and mobilize new technical, material and financial sources of support for activities to implement the Convention.

**Action #50** Ensure that assistance in addressing the consequences of cluster munitions is based on appropriate surveys, needs analysis and cost-effective approaches.

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### VIII. Actions in support of implementation

**Implementation support**

16. All States Parties will:

**Action #51** Strive to actively involve and include relevant international and regional organisations and civil society in the development, implementation, monitoring and reporting of efforts to fulfil obligations under this Convention.

**Action #52** Conduct the formal and informal meetings of the Convention in a manner that facilitates systematic input from a range of actors in civil society and international organizations and allows for the emergence of new partnerships for example with the private sector.
**Action #53** Assist the efforts of the President to develop a regular work programme and meeting schedule, a system of thematic leadership among States Parties and a coordinating mechanism for consideration by the Second Meeting of States Parties.

**Action #54** Assist the efforts of the President to develop, for consideration at the Second Meeting of States Parties the most appropriate means to facilitate implementation, including consideration of an implementation support unit to prepare formal and informal meetings of the Convention, support the President and future coordination mechanisms, provide advisory services to the States Parties and administer a Sponsorship Programme.

**Action #55** Enhance and make use of synergies between the Convention and other relevant instruments of disarmament and of international humanitarian and human rights law.

**Action #56** Take full advantage of victim assistance, risk reduction education, clearance and other related efforts already undertaken within other frameworks and explore ways to facilitate closer cooperation and meet overlapping obligations in a way that maximizes efficiency and impact of efforts in areas such as plans, budgets, coordination, service provision, monitoring and reporting.

17. States Parties in a position to do so will:

**Action #57** Facilitate and support widespread representation at meetings of the Convention, particularly by cluster munition affected developing States Parties.

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**Transparency and exchange of information**

18. All States Parties will:

**Action #58** Fulfil their obligation to provide initial transparency reports under Article 7, and where relevant, include information in accordance with article 3, paragraph 8, without delay.

**Action #59** Fulfil their obligations to annually update Article 7, and where relevant Article 3, paragraph 8, transparency reports and maximize reporting as a tool to assist and cooperate in implementation, particularly in cases where States Parties must take action to destroy stockpiled cluster munitions, clear cluster munitions remnants, assist victims or take legal and other measures referred to in Article 9.

**Action #60** To the extent possible, take full advantage of the flexibility of the reporting process, to provide information on matters not specifically required but which may assist in the implementation process and in resource mobilization.

**Action #61** Exchange views and share their experiences in a cooperative and informal manner on the practical implementation of the various provisions of the Convention.

**Action #62** Contribute to the development of the reporting format and, when relevant, of synergies with reports existing in other disarmament or humanitarian conventions.

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**National implementation measures**

19. States Parties that have not adopted national implementation measures will:

**Action #63** As a matter of urgency develop and adopt comprehensive legislative, administrative or other implementing measures, as appropriate, in accordance with Article 9 in order to implement all obligations under the Convention.
20. All States Parties will:

**Action #64**  Share information on the content and application of implementing measures through reports made in accordance with Article 7 and at formal and informal meetings of the Convention. In instances when assistance is required to develop implementing measures, States will make their needs known to States Parties, the ICRC or other relevant actors.

**Action #65**  Provide clear directives to all relevant state agencies about the prohibitions and requirements of the Convention.

**Compliance**

21. All States Parties will:

**Action #66**  Respond in a robust manner to any allegations of non-compliance, including through bilateral discussions, the use of the good offices of the President, and any other means consistent with Article 8, paragraph 1.
# Annex III

## List of documents

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