

Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions

8 October 2020

Original: English

Second Review Conference

Lausanne, 23-27 November 2020

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

**Reaffirming the determination to put an end to the suffering caused
by cluster munitions**

Lausanne declaration


Protecting Lives, Empowering Victims, Enabling Development

1. We, the representatives of the 110 States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, together with representatives of other States present as signatories, the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Cluster Munition Coalition and other international, regional and national organizations and institutions, gathered in Lausanne in November 2020 for its Second Review Conference, express our firm commitment to realise the objective of the Convention to put an end for all time to the suffering and casualties caused by cluster munitions.
2. We are inspired by the humanitarian achievements of the Convention since it entered into force ten years ago, in particular the enhanced protection of women, girls, boys and men from the threats and effects of cluster munitions and their remnants.
3. Nearly 1.5 million stockpiled cluster munitions containing 178 million sub-munitions have been destroyed, and 36 States parties have now completed their destruction obligations. More than 530 square kilometres of land have been cleared and released to civilian use, and 7 States parties have completed their clearance obligations. Education programmes on the risks posed by cluster munitions have been put in place. Countless lives and limbs have been saved as a result of these achievements.
4. If much remains to be done with regard to victim assistance, the pioneering, comprehensive provisions of the Convention in this domain are making a difference. Cluster munitions victims, including survivors, are receiving better care and their rights have been enhanced. The active participation of cluster munition victims in their communities and in the work of the Convention is a constant source of inspiration.
5. The achievements of the Convention are not limited to the humanitarian realm. Its implementation provides for a strengthening of effective multilateralism and the rules based international order. It contributes to forward movement-in a number of other areas, including advancing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the promotion of

GE.20-13133(E)



* 2 0 1 3 1 3 3 *

Please recycle 

international peace and security, human rights and international humanitarian law. Human security is also improved by the implementation of the Convention.

6. These achievements are in no small part owed to a strong partnership between States Parties to the Convention, international and regional organisations and civil society. We remain committed to fostering and reinforcing this cooperation at all appropriate levels to achieve our common goals.

7. Notwithstanding the many achievements to date, much remains to be done to fulfil the objective of the Convention. Too many people – women, girls, boys and men – are still injured or killed by cluster munition use or remnants every year, and many communities are hindered in their development by the presence of cluster munition remnants.

8. We are gravely concerned by the increase in civilian casualties and by the humanitarian impact resulting from the repeated and well-documented use of cluster munitions since the First Review Conference. This grave concern applies in particular to the use of cluster munitions in Syria, which accounts for the vast majority of global recorded casualties of these weapons, and also in Yemen, as well as to the various allegations of use since 2015. Guided by the object and provisions of the Convention, we condemn the use of cluster munitions by any actor under any circumstances.

9. We will redouble efforts to promote further the norms established by the Convention, engage States still relying on cluster munitions and reinforce the growing stigma now associated with these weapons, with a view to discouraging any new use of these weapons. We will continue to address allegations, reports or documented evidence of cluster munitions use with all the necessary diligence and attention. We call upon those that continue to use cluster munitions, as well as those that develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile, retain or transfer these weapons, or that assist, encourage or induce anyone to engage in such activities, to cease immediately.

10. Putting an end to the harm caused by cluster munitions will require universal adherence with the Convention. Progress in this area constitutes a pressing priority, and we urge all States that have not yet done so to join the Convention without delay. We will intensify our efforts to promote universal adherence to the Convention, bearing in mind the decision on accelerated universalisation adopted by the Review Conference.

11. Ending the harm caused by cluster munitions will also require the full and timely implementation of the Convention. If great strides have been made in this area, much remains to be done and we will take every possible step towards fulfilling this objective over the next review cycle.

12. We will make every effort to complete our time-bound obligations by the Third Review Conference. We will seek to increase the pace of both stockpile destruction and clearance, with a view to completing our obligations as soon as possible, and in any event no later than our respective deadlines set by the Convention.

13. We will take forward efforts to put in place effective and targeted risk education programmes for communities at risk, with a view to preventing new casualties. We will collect and analyse data to better understand the impact of risk education efforts, including in terms of behavioural changes.

14. While we aim for no new victims of cluster munitions, we understand that this does not mean a world without cluster munitions victims. Significant challenges remain for their needs to be met and their rights guaranteed. We will increase efforts to address the needs of victims, and will ensure their full, equal and effective participation in society. We are committed to ensuring that assistance to victims is integrated into national policies and legal frameworks relating to the rights of persons with disabilities as well as health, education,

social, employment, environment plans and poverty reduction, supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

15. We recognise that strong national ownership, enhanced national capacity as well as international cooperation and assistance play an important role in the timely and full implementation of the Convention. We will strengthen partnerships at all possible and appropriate levels in order to pursue capacity building and reinforce national know-how with a view to reducing reliance on foreign expertise. We will explore options for new and alternative sources of funding with a view to increasing the resources available to realise the Convention's aims.

16. In implementing the Convention, we will take practical steps to take into account the different needs, vulnerabilities and perspectives of women, girls, boys and men and diverse groups from all ages. We will strive to ensure full, equal and meaningful gender-balanced participation in the work under the Convention and in Convention meetings.

17. We underline that the effective implementation of the Convention contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the commitment to leaving no one behind. We will continue to develop synergies between the Convention and the sustainable development agenda to ensure the greatest benefits possible for communities affected by cluster munitions.

18. We commit to intensify our efforts to attain a world free of the casualties, suffering and socio-economic impacts caused by cluster munitions. We underline our resolve to fully comply with all obligations under the Convention, and to complete our time-bound obligations with all the necessary urgency. The Lausanne Action Plan 2020-2025 will be an essential roadmap towards the fulfilment of this commitment.
