

**Statement on Transparency Measures
First Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions
Dubrovnik, 8 September 2015**



Thank you Madam President.

In Laos at the First Meeting of States Parties, states committed to fulfil their obligation to submit initial transparency reports, and to submit annual updates afterwards.

Eighty percent of States Parties have submitted initial reports. These reports give an essential picture of where a state stands relative to its convention obligations. They offer a baseline of information against which to measure progress. To the remaining twenty percent, we reiterate our offer of assistance, which is also mentioned in the draft Dubrovnik Action Plan. We know that many other partners in this room are also available to help with the preparation of initial reports. It is especially important to urgently hear from states with stockpiles!

Among the remaining states that are late with annual reports, those that consider they have no remaining convention obligations only need to submit a cover page. The cover page allows you to report that the situation has not changed. For others, the draft Dubrovnik Action Plan notes that states should take full advantage of the reporting process, maximizing its potential as a tool for cooperation and assistance. Indeed we know that donors make use of transparency reports when assessing requests for assistance. For states that already receive aid, reports showcase what has been accomplished with such support. For those seeking additional support, detailed reports help showing what remains to be done, and what specific problems might benefit from international cooperation.

On our end we rely on your reporting to update the annual Cluster Munition Monitor report detailing adherence to and implementation of the Convention. The President and the ISU also depend on your transparency reports to produce the annual Progress Reports for the Convention. Both the Monitor and Progress Reports help inform a larger community of states and other actors interested in ending the suffering caused by cluster munitions. In order to reach this goal, accurate data is needed.

During Preparatory Meetings for the Review Conference we have heard numerous calls for further universalization of the Convention. Transparency reports show the impact of the Convention and how well it is being respected by States Parties. Such progress can be a good confidence-building measure at the regional level, which in turn benefits Convention universalization.

The draft Dubrovnik Action Plan foresees an increase in submission rate, an increased quality of reporting, and a better exchange of information on good reporting practices in the coming period. The CMC stands ready to assist States Parties in realizing these goals.

Thank you.