Geneva, January 18, 2012

Dear Excellency,

We are pleased to address you and refer to the Second Meeting of the States Parties of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), held in Beirut last September, where Mexico and Spain were appointed as co-chairs of the Working Group on Cooperation and Assistance. Both our Governments are grateful for the trust deposited in our delegations to support the CCM in this upcoming year towards the next Meeting of the Parties.

Much has been achieved in the cooperation and assistance field throughout the last years. Active cooperation among CCM States Parties has resulted into the economic and social development of entire regions in affected States as well as into the improvement of the living conditions of thousands of men and women. This seems the right time to give some recognition to these successful stories, which constitute the most tangible evidence of the vitality and dynamism of the CCM as an irreplaceable piece of international humanitarian law.

With this purpose, in consultation with the President of the Second Meeting of the States Parties and the Coordinating Committee, we suggest to elaborate a catalogue of best practices and lessons learn in cooperation and assistance within the framework of the CCM. This projected catalogue might take the shape of a book, as a contribution to the next Meeting of States Parties, to be held in Oslo in September 2012.

This catalogue must be a collective project. We believe that as many CCM States as possible should be involved in its elaboration and share their experiences and stories of success and success in the making.

In this regard, we would very much welcome a contribution from your country in the shape of materials (texts, graphics, photographs, testimonials) referring to cooperation and assistance projects implemented by your Government within the CCM framework or as part of other efforts to eliminate explosive remnants of war, relevant to the CCM, either as a donor or as a recipient; of bilateral, regional or multilateral nature; in inter-governmental form or with international organizations and civil society, as well as possible examples of South-South or triangular cooperation. The examples can pertain to any of the dispositions of the CCM.

To the Permanent Representatives of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions,
Geneva
Please, note that the contributions should be received not later than April 30th, 2012. Text contributions and testimonials should be written in English, and not exceed 10 pages. All contributions will be duly ordered and classified in chapters, each one relating to a particular cooperation project. The collection of contributions will be edited and published, with a view of having it ready for June 2012, two months before the next Meeting of State Parties. All materials (text, graphic, testimonials) must be correctly attributed to its author, and since this publication will not have any commercial value, and will be destined just for internal circulation of the parties, the materials should not be subject of copyrights or other intellectual property rights.

For further information do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Maria Antonieta Jáquez, at the Mission of Mexico in Geneva (mjaquez@sre.gob.mx) and/or Mr. Ignacio Cartagena, at the Mission of Spain in Geneva (ignacio.cartagena@mae.es).

We avail ourselves of this opportunity to reiterate to your Excellency the assurances of our distinguished consideration.

Juan José GÓMEZ CAMACHO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva

Javier GIL CATALINA
Ambassador
Head of the Delegation of Spain to the Conference on Disarmament