Thank you for giving me the floor.

Chair, as earlier stated, Zambia, was one of the first countries to accede to the Convention and is delighted with States Parties’ active engagement in supporting the efforts to address the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions and the commitments of all to ensure the universalisation of the Convention. It is Zambia’s ardent belief that the efforts of all States Parties in ensuring the universalisation of the Convention will soon bear the desired fruits.

Zambia remains committed to ensuring that the development, production, use, transfer and stockpiling of Cluster Munitions is brought to an end due to the unacceptable harm it inflicts on civilian populations during and after conflicts. To this end, great strides have been made by Zambia in trying to domesticate the Convention. I wish to report that approval to introduce a bill in Parliament to domesticate the Convention on Cluster Munitions was sought by the Minister of Foreign Affairs in 2011. The process was, however, temporarily stalled due to a change in administration. The
proposal has since been resubmitted to Cabinet and we are confident that the Convention will be domesticated very soon.

Let me end by reiterating that Zambia's commitment to implementing the ccm in accordance with article 9 is unwavering and will ensure that the Convention is domesticated for the effective implementation of the Convention.

I thank You.