



# **GRENADA**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

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**AT THE**

**THIRD MEETING OF STATES PARTIES**

**TO THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS**

**OSLO, 11 – 14 SEPTEMBER 2012**

Mr. President,

At the outset let me take this opportunity to congratulate you on your election as President of this very important Third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM).

Let me also take this opportunity to thank you, your Government and the people of Norway for the warm hospitality extended to my delegation and all of the delegations present here this week.

I wish to applaud the Kingdom of Norway, for the great importance and emphasis placed on the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

My delegation would also like to thank Lebanon, for its effective leadership during its tenure as President.

Mr. President,

My delegation is delighted to report on the progress made by Grenada within the last year, in implementing its obligations under the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

At the Second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions in Beirut last year, my delegation called on the then President, friends of the President and all states parties to provide urgent assistance to rid its territory of these deadly weapons which were dropped during the United States Invasion in 1983.

On 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012, the Government of Grenada formally requested support from Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) to conduct a survey of suspected areas.

Mr. President,

With financial support from the Norwegian Government, NPA conducted a non-technical and a technical survey in Grenada between the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June this year.

Mr. President,

NPA found that there was no evidence of cluster munitions remnants in the assessed area. Additionally, there were no sightings of cluster munitions nor were there any incidents related to cluster munitions since the United States Invasion in 1983.

The area of concern is continuously developing into a residential community and there is no fear of using the area among the local population. Moreover, the technical survey by NPA of a random sample of approximately 5% of the area of concern found no cluster munitions remnants.

Mr. President,

NPA made all reasonable efforts to identify areas contaminated by cluster munitions remnants through interviews with the local population, the Royal Grenada Police Force, the Government of Grenada and the Embassy of the United States.

In a letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> July 2012, NPA communicated its findings to the Government of Grenada. NPA recommended that no further action be taken since it was confident that Grenada was now in a position to declare itself in full compliance with the obligations under Article 4 of the Convention.

Accordingly, based on these findings, Grenada hereby formally declares to this Third Meeting of States Parties that it has fulfilled all of its obligations under Article 4 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Mr. President,

In my delegation's intervention on universalization at the Second Meeting of States Parties in Beirut last year, we made a commitment, to engage and inspire other countries making up the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) who are yet to ratify or accede to the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Since Beirut, Mr. President, Grenada has been utilizing every opportunity to encourage and in some instances convince its CARICOM neighbours to become parties to the Convention.

Mr. President,

My delegation is confident that before the end of 2012 at least one more CARICOM country will become a state party. This would take CARICOM'S tally to five (5) States Parties, leaving a further nine (9) states to join the convention.

Mr. President,

Grenada will continue to actively support the universalization of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Further, my delegation will continue its efforts to ensure the full commitment and participation from CARICOM.

Mr. President,

Grenada continues to advocate for the creation of an independent Implementation Support Unit (ISU). We believe that the future success of this Convention will rest in the hands of an ISU that is efficient, transparent and sustainable.

Moreover, we believe that an ISU should be all inclusive, thereby, giving all States Parties, regardless of their economic status, a feeling of ownership and belongingness.

In determining which model should be followed for the funding of an ISU, my delegation is of the view, that careful consideration must be given to three key factors, the sustainability of the ISU, the limited resources of some states and the unfair burden that can be placed on generous states.

Mr. President,

My delegation calls upon all States Parties to agree on a support model that would provide for an effective, efficient, sustainable and all inclusive ISU

In conclusion, Mr. President, Grenada reiterates its sincere appreciation to the Government of Norway and Norwegian People's Aid for answering its call for urgent assistance under this convention.

My delegation would also like to recognize UNDP for its continued assistance in ensuring that my delegation is well represented at these forums.

I thank you, Mr. President.