

Italy

3' Riunione degli Stati Parte della Convenzione di Oslo
(10-14 settembre 2012)
Intervento del Sottosegretario de Mistura

Mr. President

Even in joint DAS

- ~~It is a pleasure and an honour for me to deliver today Italy's statement at the Third Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). Allow me at the outset to congratulate you most warmly on your election as President of this Meeting. Please rest assured of my delegation's full support to you.~~ I would also like to take this occasion to thank the Government and people of Norway for the warm hospitality in the city of Oslo, the perfect organisation and the full commitment to the Convention and to the advancement of its goals.
- This is the first meeting that ~~my country~~ ^{ITALY} attends as a State Party to the Convention. The ratification process was completed in 2011, after a unanimous vote from both Houses of the Italian Parliament. The Convention entered into force for Italy on 1 March this year. ^{WE WORKED HARD ON IT!}
- Italy fully subscribes to the statement delivered by the European Union. I would like to express a few remarks on a national capacity.
- Italy's commitment to disarmament and non proliferation is wholehearted and well known. We are party to all multilateral international instruments in this field. We have been a staunch supporter of the international efforts aimed at banning or regulating the use of specific categories of weapons having harmful and indiscriminate effects: the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and its Protocols; the Ottawa Convention banning Anti-personnel Landmines; the Oslo Convention on cluster munitions. ^{AND NOW WE'VE DONE IT!}
- Italy has been among the like-minded countries that, in February 2007 in this very city, launched the process that eventually led to the adoption of the CCM less than two years later. We did so convinced of the need to ban cluster munitions, well aware of the harmful humanitarian impact and the negative consequences on socio-economic development and the environment that such weapons have on affected territories and civilian populations. ^{OSCA}
- We are fully committed to the CCM implementation. ^{SG} ^{AND HE'S UP} ^{FORGET THE} ^{IN}
- As far as destruction of stockpiles is concerned, I refer to Italy's article 7 Initial Report, ~~which my country~~ ^{which my country} submitted a few days ago. Therein you will find detailed information on the type and quantities of weapons we are going to destroy. Specific presentations have been made during the inter-sessional period. It is important to underline that Italy's ratification law earmarks specific funds for destruction activities and that we will complete

I SAW THE VJ... AND...

VIA VSE AGO' 1/11/12

- On the ground, the Ottawa and the Oslo Conventions have similar goals and similar implementation methods. Why not making sure that also their ISUs are linked and work in a coordinated manner while preserving the principle of independence of the two Conventions? Experience in other domains shows that this goal is achievable.

Mr. President

- In conclusion, the CCM is proving its relevance in today's world. 75 countries are already party to this important instrument, less than four years after the Convention was opened to signature. But we can do more. The biggest producers and holders of cluster munitions in the world are not yet party to the Convention, but I am convinced that one day we will achieve universality. The great Norwegian explorer and diplomat Fridtjof Nansen once said: "Vanskelige ting tar lang tid, det umulige tar litt lengre tid" (The difficult is what takes a little time; the impossible is what takes a little longer). Nothing is impossible here, only difficult. *→ BUT TODAY A STEP FORWARD!*

Thank you Mr. President.

TACK SAMVOKERT!

AND AS RIGHTLY STATED BY
OUR EXCELLENT COLLEAGUE AND HOST
JONAS SAHR STOR

"THE POLITICAL PROCESS" / CONSTRUCTIVE
EXCHANGE

FOR WINNING THE COURSE
SOME EVEN SAY

THAT WHO ARE NOT
PARTY OF THE CONVENTION
IS ALWAYS INCREASING
REMARKABLE!