



**LOME REGIONAL SEMINAR ON THE UNIVERSALIZATION OF THE
CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS, 22-23 MAY 2013**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Togo has the pleasure to invite your State to participate in the upcoming *Regional Seminar on the Universalization of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)*. The seminar, organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of the Republic of Ghana, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zambia and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and with the financial support of Norway, will be held from 22th to 23th May 2013 in Lomé, Togo.

The Convention is of particular importance to Africa, as a region with countries that are affected by the devastating humanitarian impact of cluster munitions. Throughout and since the Oslo Process leading to the adoption of the CCM, many African nations have been vocal in advocating for an all-encompassing ban on cluster munitions. Therefore, the objectives of this seminar are to extend universalization and national implementation efforts of the CCM further across the African continent by following up on the Accra Action Plan adopted by the 34 states attending the Accra Regional Conference on the Universalization of the Convention on Cluster Munitions in May 2012.

In order to insure the most fruitful exchanges possible, participation is encouraged from technical and policy experts from States as well as from regional and civil society organizations dealing with issues related to cluster munitions in African States. In order to facilitate participation in the meeting, a limited sponsorship programme is available covering one representative from each State. The sponsorship programme, administered by UNDP, will include a roundtrip economy class airfare, hotel accommodation in Lomé, insurance and an element of living expenses. States requesting sponsorship should indicate this in the registration form and in a Note Verbale to be submitted to UNDP at the following email ccm.contact@undp.org or fax number : +41 22 917 80 60 **by 13 May 2013**.

A draft programme will be available shortly on the website <http://www.clusterconvention.org/meetings/regional-meetings/lome-regional-conference/>. The working language will be French. There will however be interpretation available in English and Arabic.

A registration form has been attached to this invitation. In the event that your country would like to participate, it should be completed and returned with the Note Verbale by email

to ccm.contact@undp.org or fax: +41 22 917 80 60 **by 13 May 2013**. For the organizations, the designated representatives have to submit an official document from the organization with the registration form.

More information and conference documents can be found at the following website <http://www.clusterconvention.org/meetings/regional-meetings/lome-regional-conference/>.

We look forward to receiving your registration, and welcoming you to Togo.

Yours sincerely.



Enclosures:

- Registration Form (English and French)
- List of invited countries and organizations
- Accra Action Plan (English and French)