

**CMC Statement on Implementation Architecture and the 2012 Work Plan
Second Meeting of States Parties, Convention on Cluster Munitions
Beirut, Lebanon
15 September 2011**



Mr. President,

The Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) warmly welcomes the President's implementation architecture discussion paper and the corresponding draft decisions, which will lay a strong foundation of support for the implementation and universalization of convention in the coming years. The structures to be created will enable states and other actors to promote and monitor states' progress throughout the year, which will surely contribute to more rapid achievement of the convention's aims.

We also appreciate the emphasis on inclusiveness, cooperation and coordination with civil society and other actors in order to maximize efficiency and effectiveness. Such partnership has been an integral part of the convention since its inception, and has continued to play a central role in the convention's development since it entered into force.

We have therefore already had the opportunity to contribute to the architecture paper and decisions under discussion this week, so we only have a few comments today that we hope will strengthen even further the proposed structure and collaboration among interested actors. First of all, we would like to encourage the convention's new working group coordinators to hold regular meetings throughout the year in addition to the discussions on these subjects during the Coordination Committee and the interessional meetings. Such meetings will help provide a regular forum for discussing state-specific or general issues that need to be addressed and for ensuring a coordinated set of activities to do so. As such, they should include participation from interested states and experts from, at a minimum, the UN, civil society, and the ICRC.

On the proposal for an implementation support unit, the CMC would like to see an ISU for the convention up and running as soon as possible in order to strengthen our collective work on the convention. We therefore hope the decisions taken at the 2MSP will lead to an ISU being created and operational as soon as possible. We would like to encourage States Parties to find a creative way to finalize all decisions before the 3MSP, or at the least to undertake all necessary preparations to enable the ISU to start functioning immediately after the 3MSP. In the meantime, we fully support the proposal to supplement the current capacity of the Executive Coordinator and we urge all States Parties to provide the means for such "efficient and effective interim support."

In terms of the ISU mandate, the draft directive from States Parties to the ISU provides a comprehensive range of activities that should ensure solid support for the work of the convention. The Cluster Munition Coalition would, however, like to make a few additional suggestions to ensure that the mandate reflects and preserves the convention's spirit of partnership with civil society, international organizations, the ICRC and other key stakeholders.

Some of the activities outlined in the ISU mandate – such as providing technical expertise and other advice and support to states – are already part of the work of NGOs, the ICRC, UN agencies and other actors, so it will be important that activities undertaken by each of these stakeholders, including the ISU, is carried out in a transparent and collaborative manner. The goal should always be to make the best use of all resources and expertise, to avoid duplication of effort, and to achieve maximum efficiency.

While we have no doubt that such types of collaboration will take place, we would like to propose some small amendments to bullet points 4 to 8 of the draft ISU mandate to make the ISU's role in enhancing and facilitating collaboration with external partners more explicit. This will also make it clearer to states now and in future years that there is a wide group of actors that can support them on joining and implementing the convention. In the interest of time, we will provide these suggestions in writing and can be found in the written copy of this statement outside.

Thank you.

Specific suggestions:

Bullet point 4: After “Offer advice and support to States Parties on the implementation of the Convention,” **ADD “in collaboration with external partners.”**

Point 5: We think the point should clarify what is meant by a resource base, and how this might correspond to work done by the Cluster Munition Monitor on data collection, as well as provision of expertise by outside experts more broadly.

Point 6: The contracting element makes it sound quite complex and possibly expensive to provide such support, when normally such work would just be undertaken as part of those actors' standard activities. We would suggest amending it to read “Support the implementation of the Convention, including **by facilitating the provision of such support by external technical experts.**”

Point 7: Add at the end “**in partnership with external partners.**”

Point 8: We would like some of the relevant actors to be explicitly named so that it is clear now and in the future to whom this applies. We would suggest adding at the end “**including United Nations Agencies, the Cluster Munition Coalition, and the ICRC.**”