

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
NIGERIA AT THE NINTH MEETING OF STATE PARTIES (9MSP) TO THE
CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
FROM 2-4 SEPTEMBER, 2019

Mr. President,

Nigeria congratulates the President of the Ninth Conference of State Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions on his deserving election, and expresses pronounced confidence in his experience and ability to steer our deliberations to successful outcomes. We wish to appreciate the members of the Secretariat and the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) for the coordinated manner they have superintended the affairs of the Convention thus far. Our warm and special appreciation also goes to the members of the Bureau for their support towards ensuring the Universalization of the Convention. We will not forget to congratulate State Parties that recently acceded, and ratified the convention.

Mr. President,

2. A significant portion of the global population has experienced the tragic consequences of the cluster munitions. These continue to undermine otherwise peaceful societies, cause humanitarian consequences, unacceptable internal displacement and strife, and are responsible for hundreds of deaths each day. My country therefore remains committed to the spirit of the convention as an international instrument that prohibits use, production, transfer and stockpiling of cluster munitions.

Mr. President,

3. Nigeria remains deeply concerned over the use, production, transfer and stockpiling of cluster munitions, especially in the light of their wide range of humanitarian and socio-economic consequences, particularly on the continent of

Africa. Our commitment has been demonstrated by signing the Convention on Cluster Munitions on June 12, 2009 as well as signing and ratification of other relevant international, regional as well as sub-regional instruments and legal regimes such as the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and the United Nations Programme of Action (UNPoA). Nigeria's support for the establishment and sustenance of robust partnerships with the African Union (AU), the United Nations (UN) Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and other relevant organizations are also clear testimonies to our country's commitment.

Mr. President,

5. Nigeria has taken major positive steps towards ratifying the Convention on Cluster Munitions. We are pleased to inform that the Convention is currently before the National Assembly receiving necessary attention as stipulated by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and would be ratified as soon as the legislative processes are completed.

Mr. President

6. In conclusion, be assured that my delegation will actively participate in all processes geared towards decisively confronting the humanitarian consequences and unacceptable harm caused to civilians by cluster munitions. In doing so, it is important to stress that all outcomes should reflect the interests of the vulnerable people especially women and children that are suffering from the serious effects of the cluster munitions. Nigeria will continue to work closely with its international partners in consolidating the gains made in sustaining peace and development.

7. I thank you.