



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Fourth Meeting of States Parties  
of the Convention on Cluster Munitions**

**Statement by**

**SWITZERLAND**

**Compliance**

**Lusaka, 13 September 2013**

*Check against delivery*

Mr. President,

The Convention on Cluster Munitions is a relatively recent instrument of international law. Yet, it is already having a tremendous impact on the way the world perceives the use and production of cluster munitions. Although the convention is not yet universally ratified, the last few years showed that we move towards a stigmatisation of these weapons.

For this reason, we are concerned about continued information that cluster munitions are used in countries not party to the Convention. Switzerland has already and on several occasions expressed its concern about the use of cluster munitions (as well as of antipersonnel mines) by the various parties to the conflict in Syria. We call upon all the parties to the conflict to respect the basic norms of international humanitarian law and to refrain from using weapons with indiscriminate effect such as cluster munitions (This call also extends to the use of antipersonnel mines).

Mr. President,

On another note, Switzerland would like to highlight again the importance of compliance with article 7 on transparency and reporting. We would like to thank those States Parties, which have submitted their reports in time. We note however with some concern that the reporting rate is not what it should be and that the quality of reporting is unequal. Additional efforts in this area will certainly be necessary. The information contained in these reports is important for the implementation of the Convention, including as a basis for policy and operational decisions, including the provision of assistance, as we mentioned earlier this morning.

Thank you.