



REPUBLIC OF CUBA
Permanent Mission to the United Nations Office at Geneva and
other International Organizations in Switzerland

STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF CUBA, AMBASSADOR RODOLFO BENITEZ VERNON, ON ITEM 8 c) CLEARANCE AND DESTRUCTION OF CLUSTER MUNITIONS REMNANTS AND RISK REDUCTION EDUCATION. Sixth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Geneva, September 5, 2016.

Mr. President:

Although the Convention on Cluster Munitions will not be in effect for Cuba until next the first of October, for the sake of full transparency we would like to advance the following considerations related to the implementation of Article 4 of the Convention, "Clearance and destruction of cluster munitions remnants and risk reduction education".

In Cuba there are no explosive remnants of cluster munitions, which make it unnecessary for cleaning activities and destruction.

As regards education for risk reduction, officers of the Cuban Armed Forces receive periodically training courses and information on cluster munitions and provisions of the Convention, as part of education programs of institutes of higher level of the Armed Forces.

The Centre for Studies on Disarmament and International Security, belonging to the Ministry of Revolutionary Armed Forces, has among its functions to regularly train officers of the armed forces as experts on disarmament and international security. In their training, they receive information on issues related to the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

The government, educational institutions of the Cuban state, the media and other socializing agents of our country, contribute to educate the Cuban population in the threats posed by cluster munitions and their incompatibility with international humanitarian law.

Thank you.