THE ADDIS ABABA COMMITMENT ON UNIVERSALIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

Highly concerned at the continued use of cluster munitions and the undesirable humanitarian
consequences thereof particularly on civilian populations; and building on the Accra and Lomé
Declarations of 2012 and 2013 respectively, 17 African States\(^1\) met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 4 and 5
August 2016 to recommit to the objectives of attaining a Cluster Munitions free Africa with universal
adherence to the Convention on Cluster Munitions as well as with increased implementation of the
Convention.

Taking note of the communique of the 584\(^{th}\) Meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the African
Union on disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation calling for the universality of the CCM and
other international instruments and requesting the AU Commission to assist member states with their
clearance activities as well as facilitate the exchange of expertise and resources among them.

Acknowledging the renewed political commitment at the First Review Conference at which States
expressed their support for cooperative efforts in the following actions in line with the Dubrovnik Action
Plan:

To universalize the Convention on Cluster Munitions

We the States commit to increase adherence with the Convention and to promote the
universalization of the Convention through continued outreach and engagement with States not
parties in all appropriate fora.

We will endeavour to take every opportunity at national, regional, continental and global fora to
reinforce the norms being established by the Convention so that there is a marked decrease in
reported alleged and confirmed instances of use, with the objective to bring to an end the suffering
and adverse humanitarian costs caused by cluster munitions.

To advance cooperation and assistance

We reaffirm our commitment to strengthen partnerships at all levels by communicating challenges
and seeking assistance and by responding promptly to requests for assistance from those in need.
We further undertake to identify and mobilize the necessary technical, material and financial
resources and means of cooperation and assistance, at the community, the national and
international level to enhance the implementation of the Convention.

At the country level, we commit to demonstrate a high-level national ownership in fulfilling the
Convention’s obligations and to this end empower and provide relevant state entities with the
necessary human, financial and material capacities and resources to efficiently implement these
obligations.

To promote Convention compliance

We will endeavour to participate more fully in the work of the Convention speaking out to condemn
incidences of documented use of cluster munitions and to discourage production and transfer of
cluster munitions, as agreed in the Dubrovnik Action Plan.

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\(^1\) Angola, Botswana, Cameroon, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Madagascar, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Swaziland,
Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe
To ensure national implementation

We commit to prioritize the enactment of new legislation or the review of existing national legislation.

Also acknowledging the common challenges transcending African States in ratifying/acceding and implementing the obligations of the Convention, participants present expressed their support for the recommendations below to enhance universalization and effective implementation of the Convention goals:

1. Sensitization on importance of ratification of CCM at all levels domestically (especially the high levels), including Parliament
2. Establishing implementation agencies and designate national focal point at national level to coordinate the implementation of the CCM
3. Improving coordination amongst national stakeholders
4. Engaging the African Union as well as the regional economic communities (RECS) and the regional mechanisms for conflict prevention, management and resolution (RMS)
5. Mobilization of resources at national, regional and international levels