



Covention on Cluster Munitions

THE CASE OF CUBA

Accession

Cuba joins to the Convention on Cluster Munitions on April 6, 2016

The Convention enters into force for Cuba on October 1, 2016

Applicable Laws:

- Law No. 62 Penal Code, dated 29 December 1987
 - Law No. 22 Military Offenses Act, dated February 15, 1989
 - Decree-Law No. 262 on Weapons and Ammunition, dated November 12, 2008
 - Specific legal provisions for relevant entities.
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- Officers of the Ministry of the Armed Forces regularly receive information and training courses on the main provisions of the Convention.
 - The Institutes of the Armed Forces, as part of their curricula, receive information on the provisions of the Convention.
 - The Center for the Study of Disarmament and International Security (CEDSI), which is part of the Ministry of the Armed Forces, is responsible for periodically training officers of the Armed Forces as experts on disarmament and security issues, including on issues related to the Convention.

Cuban Context

In Cuba there are no:

Cluster Munitions Production Centers

Areas contaminated with cluster munitions

Cluster Munitions Victims

Related Activities:

Education of the civilian population.

Health service is public, free, of quality and fully accessible.

Care of people with disabilities.

Existing Cluster Munitions in Cuba

Cluster Munitions:

RBK-250 AO -282

RBK-250 PTAB - 663

RBK-250 ZAB- 193

Total 1138

Explosive Submunitions

BKF AO - 336

BKF PTAB – 382

Total 718

Destruction Process

Existing cluster munitions and explosive submunitions will be destroyed within the time limit set by the Convention in Article 3.

Method used for destruction: Blasting

Sites of Destruction: National Military Polygons

National organization responsible of destruction process: Ministry of the Armed Forces.

Applicable Standards on Safety and Environment:

- Law No. 81 on Environment, dated February 4, 1997
- Decree-Law No. 262 on Weapons and Ammunition, dated November 12, 2008

Cuba shall not store cluster munitions or explosive submunitions for the purposes authorized in Article 3.6 of the Convention.

Cuba will update on the state of the destruction of cluster munitions at the next Conference of States Parties to the Convention.

Position of Cuba on CCM



We call for the banning and total elimination of cluster munitions and we condemn their use, because they are considered incompatible with the rules of IHL and because of the indiscriminate effects and the large number of civilian casualties they cause, even after the cessation of combative actions.

The Cuban government, and in particular the Ministry of the Armed Forces, is prepared to implement measures to ensure strict compliance with Cuba's obligations as a State Party to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, including obligation of destruction.

Cuba signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions as a proof of its commitment with multilateralism and IHL. Nevertheless, our country continues to believe that this instrument has ambiguities and inconsistencies that affect its uniform and effective application.

Position of Cuba on CCM

The definition of cluster munitions used in the Convention does not include all possible variants of such weapons. On the contrary, it excludes the production and use of certain sophisticated types of cluster munitions. The definition of cluster munitions should not depend on the number of explosive submunitions it contains, nor on the equipment of submunitions with self-destruct mechanisms and self-deactivation devices. We believe that a technological improvement can not solve the humanitarian problems that these weapons pose.

We consider that Article 21 (Relations with States not Party of the Convention) can not be interpreted extensively to legitimize acts during the joint operations prohibited by the Convention in Article 1.

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THANK YOU !