



Convention on Cluster Munitions 9th Meeting of States Parties

Geneva 2-4 September 2019

Australia – Comments on Comments on Storage and Stockpile Reduction

Thankyou Mr President,

First, Australia would like to thank the Coordinators on Stockpile Destruction and Retention, Austria and Mozambique, on their work in progressing the implementation of Action 2 of the Dubrovnik Action Plan.

As Mozambique's term as Coordinator on Stockpile Destruction and Retention comes to an end, we are very pleased present our candidacy to follow on from Mozambique and Austria's example. If accepted we would look forward to working closely with our Austrian colleagues on this important work. We are close in name, if not geography!

Mr President, Australia also wishes to congratulate both Botswana and Switzerland on their fulfilment of their Article 3 obligations, with the announcements of 18 September 2018 and 19 March 2019 respectively that each had destroyed their own stockpiles of cluster munitions. For both countries, this noteworthy event has been achieved ahead of their respective Article 3 deadline, and is to be commended.

Australia would like to call on all States Parties to the Convention with Article 3 obligations to progress their national plans for cluster munition destruction as soon as possible, in compliance with applicable international standards for protecting public health and the environment.

Thankyou Mr President