Statement of the Republic of Croatia on update on the activities undertaken

(Item 9)

Ninth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions Geneva,

2 – 4 September 2019

Thank you Mr. President.

Allow me first to introduce myself. My name is Damir Trut and I am Assistant Minister in the Croatian Ministry of the Interior. This is my first time attending the meeting of States parties and it is my pleasure to join you. Thank you very much for the invitation. The norms of the Convention are important to Croatia and we are committed to their reinforcement.

I am also here in the capacity of the head of the Civil Protection Directorate, the new organizational entity. I would like to share with you the information on organizational changes that took place in January 2019. Namely, the National Protection and Rescue Directorate of the Republic of Croatia, the State Office for Radiological and Nuclear Safety, the Croatian Mine Action Centre, Office for Mine Action of the Government of Croatia, Inspection and the Agency for Explosive Atmosphere as organizational entities have ceased to exist. They are now an integrated part of the Ministry of Interior, forming a Civil Protection Directorate. This was a very important step in forming a more integrated and more functional civil protection system.

Let me update you on the activities Croatia has undertaken to promote adherence to the Convention: in April 2019 the 16th International Symposium “Mine Action 2019”, the annual international gathering of mine action experts, was held under the high patronage of the Government of the Republic of Croatia.

On the margins of the symposium a number of other bilateral meetings were held all with the same goal of enhancing partnerships at all levels.

Croatia recognizes the universal nature of the norms of the Convention and will stay committed to promoting it.