

## Canada - Explanation of Position on the Dubrovnik Political Declaration

Madam President,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

Canada reserves its position with respect to the Dubrovnik Declaration, which we are unable to support in full. For the most part, the text of the Declaration moves us forward in our collective efforts to address the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions and we can therefore support most of its text. However, as we indicated in our opening statement on September 8, paragraph 6 of the Political Declaration poses problems for Canada, as it is inconsistent with Article 21 of the Convention, which permits military cooperation and operations with non-Parties.

During the negotiation of the Convention, Canada and others worked hard, and in a transparent fashion, to develop strong language to address the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions that would also allow us to meet legitimate security requirements, while actively working towards the Convention's universalization. Article 21 is an integral part of the common ground established in Dublin. Canada remains firmly committed to the Convention's goal of putting an end for all time to the human suffering and casualties caused by cluster munitions and will continue to make every effort towards its universalization.