FIFTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES (5MSP)
TO THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

San José, 2–5 September 2014

General Statement by Germany
on Cooperation and Assistance

Señor Presidente,

Cooperation and assistance among States Parties is crucial in order to achieve the objectives of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Germany is privileged to provide substantial support for cluster munitions clearance, stockpile destruction and other activities related to the provisions of the Convention. In 2013 Germany spent around 15 million EUR for this purpose.

I would like to give you just a few examples: In May 2013, Germany supported a seminar on the implementation of the Cluster Munitions Convention. The seminar was organised by the Centre for Security Cooperation “RACVIAC” and took place in Macedonia. In April 2014, Germany supported a “RACVIAC” symposium on ways of dealing with cluster munitions and mine contamination, thus sharing expertise, opinions and best practices as well as exploring the way ahead towards the full implementation of the Convention. The symposium was part of a series of events of the International Symposium and Equipment Exhibition “Mine Action 2014” in Croatia.

In 2013, Germany provided substantial humanitarian assistance for mine clearance in over 22 countries. Deminers focused on cluster munitions, anti-personnel mines and
other types of unexploded ordnance. A gender based approach was part of our de-
mining activities, thus fostering the implementation of Resolution 1325 of the Secu-
ritiy Council of the United Nations. The demining work included awareness raising
and educational campaigns for civilians as well as assistance to victims of cluster
munitions. As a member of the Convention on the Rights of persons with Disabili-
ties, Germany helps to address the special needs of all persons with disabilities, in-
cluding those of survivors of cluster munitions explosions.

Last year, Germany funded the destruction of stockpiles of cluster munitions in
Georgia and Macedonia. We will continue our efforts to assist States Parties in need
of cooperation and assistance in order to achieve our commitments under the Con-
vention.

*Muchas gracias, Señor Presidente!*