

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

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**MESSAGE ON THE ADOPTION  
OF THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS  
Dublin, 30 May 2008**

I am delighted that the strong calls to address the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions have been answered with the adoption today of this new Convention. I welcome this successful outcome of the Dublin Diplomatic Conference, and congratulate everyone who contributed to the process.

A broad-based coalition of States, international organizations and civil society has brought about a new international standard that will enhance the protection of civilians, strengthen human rights and improve prospects for development.

As Secretary-General of the United Nations, I am honoured to accept depositary functions under the Convention. In addition, the entire United Nations system stands ready to support and assist State Parties in implementing their treaty obligations. I therefore encourage States to sign and ratify this important agreement without delay, and I look forward to its rapid entry into force.