

MPCR-ONUG/2015-186 13.8

Geneva, 1 April 2015

Re: Selection of Director for the Implementation Support Unit of the CCM

Dear Ambassadors and friends of the CCM,

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the result in response to the States parties decision at the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) requesting the President of the 5MSP, assisted by five States parties to finalize as soon as possible and preferably by March 2015, the recruitment for the **Director of the Implementation Support Unit**. To this end, and after successfully being selected in a recruitment process chaired by Costa Rica ably assisted by esteemed colleagues, the Ambassadors of the Netherlands, Lao PDR, Lebanon and Zambia respectively, I would like to inform you that on 12th March, 2015, **Ms. Sheila Mweemba** accepted the offer of the position as the Director of the Implementation Support Unit to the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Expected to assume her duties the first week of May 2015, Ms. Mweemba will, in accordance with States parties' decisions of the 4MSP, work alongside the Executive Coordinator at UNDP, with which management, decision and accountability remains until the end of the Presidency of the 5MSP at which time UNDP will discontinue the interim arrangements of implementation support for the CCM. Further that, Ms. Mweemba, in her capacity as Director of the CCM ISU, will carry out her duties under the overall direction and supervision of the current and subsequent President(s) on behalf of the States parties to the CCM.

¹ Final Report, paragraph 32 "In order to ensure continued support, including to the Presidency while the establishment of the ISU is ongoing, the Meeting decided to extend the existing interim solution consisting of the Executive Coordinator based in the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery until the conclusion of the Presidency of the Fifth Meeting of States Parties. The management, decision and accountability remains with UNDP until the end of the Presidency of the 5MSP after which UNDP will hand over to the new ISU. The transition from the interim solution to the newly established ISU shall commence at the 5MSP and be completed no later than the First Review Conference, at which the new ISU would completely take over the Secretariat functions. The Meeting thanked the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery for agreeing to continue to provide the function as Interim ISU."



Ms. Mweemba, brings to the post the experience since 2012, as Programme Manager of the Norwegian People's Aid Humanitarian Disarmament Programme based in Zimbabwe. Previous to that, and intersected by an appointment as Deputy Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations in New York in 2011, Sheila held the post as Director of the Zambia Mine Action Centre since 2005.

Throughout the last decade, Ms. Mweemba has developed a broad network within the humanitarian disarmament community and brings with her extensive experience in multi-lateral diplomacy having played leadership roles in a number of negotiations, included herein, as the Coordinator of the African Group throughout the Oslo process on the CCM culminating with the Dublin Diplomatic Conference in May 2008, where she served as one of the eight Vice Presidents. She also brings management expertise in humanitarian disarmament implementation both at national and international level. Ms. Mweemba, who is of Zambian nationality, holds a Master of Social Science Degree in Rural Development from the University of Birmingham and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Administration from the University of Zambia. She also completed a Senior Mine Action Managers' course at James Madison University as well as a follow-up program in cooperation between Jordan and the James Madison University.

Please join me in welcoming Ms Mweemba, to her new appointment, wishing her the very best in her new assignment.

In closing, I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to your organization the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ms. Elayne Whyte Gómez

Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Costa Rica