



Lebanese Republic
2MSP
12-16/9/2011

Intervention of Lebanese delegation to the Second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions

Item no [] on National Legislation Measures

Thank you Mr./Madam President,

May I first thank the distinguished ambassador of New Zealand for the hard work as our friend on national legislation measures; and also for the two working papers submitted to this meeting. The model Legislation as presented, acknowledging the focus on small states that do not possess nor are contaminated by cluster munitions, is in our view simple, straightforward but yet comprehensive, and appears to contain the flexibility to adapt to different legislative systems. Same applies to the second paper entitled Checklist. It refers to sources of assistance that will surely be helpful for legislators in their review of existing domestic laws to assess to what extent they cover the legal, administrative and other measures to implement the Convention, including the imposition of penal sanctions to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party. Being affected, we will of course need to ensure a more comprehensive review, also with regards to victim assistance.

Last week, the Lebanese Parliament hosted an event to shed light on the importance of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, and the process that led to its adoption. This event was attended by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants, Parliamentarians, civil servants, UNDP representatives, together with civil society and media representatives, and also victims who have reported to the meeting a list of issues they perceive fundamental in any future Lebanese legislation in this regard, as well as their vision on how best the CCM could be implemented to meet their rights and needs.

Each State party, with respect to cluster munitions victims in areas under its jurisdiction or control, is not only obliged to adequately provide, in accordance with applicable international humanitarian and human rights law, age- and gender-sensitive assistance, including medical care, rehabilitation and psychological support, as well as provide for their social and economic inclusion. Not only that but, each state Party shall also make every effort to collect reliable relevant data with respect to cluster munitions victims. This entails a much larger recovery engagement also as victim assistance is needed on continuous basis throughout the life of those affected.

The reference to applicable international humanitarian and human rights law also indicates that such victim assistance, although referenced here as for cluster munitions victims, should be done within the framework of broader disability work. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to which Lebanon is a signatory, must be the instrument that will frame our discussions with regards to legislative work that may be needed in this regard.



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Lebanon is currently considering the enactment of the necessary legislation that will put the implementation aspects of the CCM into force, in a manner that is consistent with the requirements of article 9.

I thank you Mr Chairman.