

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

Item No. [] on Universalization

Thank you Mr./Madame President,

On behalf of the delegation of Lebanon, allow me to extend our deepest appreciation to Japan, the friend of the President on Universalization, for all its efforts during the past year. May I also thank all who have pursued Universalization activities, formally or informally. We are aware that Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada and Chile have assisted our friend Japan in its pursuit; we are also thankful to them.

Lebanon welcomes all the States that have joined the convention since we last met in Vientiane. We are delighted to see Botswana, Bulgaria, Chile, Cook Island, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea Bissau, Lithuania, Mozambique, Netherlands, Panama, Portugal and Senegal moving closer to the podium and be among us on the seats of States Parties. We also congratulate Afghanistan who ratified the Convention a few days ago, Swaziland who we all witnessed the deposition of its instrument of Ratification to the UN Secretary General's High Representative on Disarmament Affairs a couple of days ago, as we congratulate Switzerland on the announcement it made yesterday.

offices with the Arab countries and urge them to attend the 2MSP, and to join the Convention.

3. The presence in Geneva of the Foreign Minister of Lebanon, Dr. Adnan Mansour, for the first intersessional meeting last June, reflects the importance he attaches to the convention and his dedication to promoting and supporting it. Minister Mansour has seized the opportunity of the intersessional meeting to meet with the Permanent Representatives of the Arab States in Geneva to encourage their respective governments to participate in the 2MSP in Beirut and to consider their positions vis-à-vis the CCM.
4. Together with Laos, the Lebanese delegation of the meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Bali (May 2011), managed to insert a provision to the Final Declaration of the meeting, recognizing the importance of the CCM and its humanitarian pillars.
5. Jointly with Japan, Lebanon addressed a letter, on behalf of the States Parties, to all States non-Parties, encouraging them to consider their position vis-à-vis the CCM and to adhere to it. The letter expressed as well the readiness to assist States not Parties to tackle the challenges hindering their accession. It also invited them to attend the 2MSP as Observers.

Mr./Madame President,

To conclude, Lebanon urges all States not Party to the CCM to adhere to this Convention as soon as possible, with the aim of reaching the full potential of the CCM in the shortest possible period of time.

Thank you, Mr/Madame President.

Lebanon gives Universalization a substantial attention and priority. At this stage when we are all setting the norm, and when more States are joining the CCM, we feel a large responsibility on our shoulders, to defend the humanitarian pillars on which the CCM stands, by promoting its values and with the aim of universal adherence. The imperative of Universalization becomes evident, as we have regrettably witnessed the use of cluster munitions on two recent occasions; this is very alarming.

Universalization is an obligation on all States Parties to the CCM. In this regards, as an affected State Party, Lebanon is aware of the expectation from the mandate it has been entrusted. Lebanon pledges to strive to achieve universalization in a manner that resonates among those affected, responding to their feelings and outcries, not only on its soil, but also worldwide. Universal adherence is our aim.

Mr. President I am honored to report to the meeting some of the activities that Lebanon undertook in the previous period:

1. Universalization occupies significant importance on the agenda of the Lebanese Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants, who is sparing no effort to promote the CCM. Bilateral meetings were conducted in this context, during official visits to the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Bahrain. Lebanon is very glad to see their delegations, as well as other States from the region, joining us here as observer States during this MSP.
2. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants of Lebanon conducted an official demarche towards the Secretary General of the League to attend the 2MSP, but also asking him to use his good

Arab