Third Meeting of States Parties To the Convention on Cluster Munitions 11 to 14 September, Oslo, Norway

Statement by Canada on National Implementation Measures

Thank you, Mr. President,

As our delegation mentioned in our brief statement on universalization, the Government of Canada has tabled its national implementation legislation.

Canada's legislation reflects all of the legal obligations called for in the Convention on Cluster Munitions - and we have gone even further by prohibiting other activities as a matter of policy, policy which will be translated in operational directives which are themselves legally binding for our soldiers under the military justice system.

It is clear and unequivocal, it fully addresses the obligations called for by the treaty, and I can also say that it meets civil society's desire that States clarify their interpretation of various aspects of the Convention.

Canada's understanding of these specialized obligations was outlined in detail in the 2011 Intersessional meeting. In the interests of time, Canada will not repeat this detailed statement today, but it is available online on the Convention website.

Bill S - 10, the *Prohibiting Cluster Munitions Act*, underwent First Reading in the Senate on 25 April. Second Reading was concluded on 22 June and the Bill was referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade for its consideration. The Committee is expected to consider the Bill shortly after it resumes sitting in late September.

Once the Committee has considered the Bill, it along with any suggested amendments, will be returned to the full Senate for Third and final reading. At that time Senators may also propose further amendments. Following Third Reading, the Bill is voted on and, assuming passage, it would then be referred to the House of Commons for its consideration.

The process within the House is similar to that of the Senate.

Following passage in the House, the Government will seek Royal Assent. The Bill will then become law in Canada and we will be in position to deposit our Instrument of Ratification.

Thank you.