



CAMBODIA'S STATEMENT AT
THE 4th MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER
MUNITIONS
LUSAKA, ZAMBIA, 10th SEPTEMBER, 2013

Excellency President;
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen;
Distinguished Delegates;

On behalf of the Cambodian Delegation, let me first congratulate you on your Presidency of the 4MSP and your colleagues for the quality of the organization of this meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions. I would like to thank the Government of Zambia for its warmest hospitality and all arrangements.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to convey my Prime Minister's sincerest appreciation to Ms. Sarah Blakemore, Director of the Cluster Munition Coalition, in reference to her letter dated August 22, 2013.

Cambodia, as a country severely affected and victimized by the use of mines and Explosive Remnants of War including cluster munitions, is well aware of the devastating impacts of the weapons. The Royal Government of Cambodia remains steadfast in its support to the effective implementation of Mine Ban Treaty, and in its support to the international community in calling for the ban of any indiscriminate uses of cluster munitions against innocent civilians.

As far as Cambodia's position in relation to accession of the Convention on Cluster Munitions is concerned, the Royal Government of Cambodia wishes to assure you that it has thus far taken important steps and actions. Meetings and workshops have been held by concerned national agencies to understand substance and discuss provisions of the Convention. Furthermore, the participation of Cambodia in previous MSPs is a testament of its commitment in support to the Convention it, as it genuinely showed in early development of the Oslo process.

Equally important, joining the Convention, however, has been much more on technical and national defense fronts, than political ones. So long as the clarity of which weapons to be categorized as cluster munitions remains in question, in other words the lack of clearly

defined definition of cluster munitions given the variety of their kinds, a much more vigorous study among key national technical stakeholders must be made to explore technical matters and to seek a possible consensus, which is of critical importance as far as local contexts and dynamics of national defense and security are concerned. In light of that, the Royal Government of Cambodia wishes to emphasize that the timing for its accession shall be considered once it concludes all relevant assessments.

Once again, the Royal Government of Cambodia wishes to thank to the team of the President of the Third Meeting of States Parties who has given technical clarification regarding the BM 14/21 GRAD Multiple Rocket Launcher System. We also thank to the Cluster Munition Coalition in its readiness and kind offer to provide further technical assistance to the Royal Government through my delegation in this 4MSP.

Let me conclude by thanking all Development Partners who have contributed to Cambodia to clear mine/ERW over the years and for their continuing support to help reduce the painful and persistent legacies of the conflicts that inhibited Cambodia and wish you all a success in your noble causes, and the 4MSP a fruitful event.

Thank you!