



Republic of Ghana

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STATEMENT ON NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION

BY

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AT THE

4TH MEETING OF STATE PARTIES TO THE CCM

LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

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Republic of Ghana

Thank you Madam President,

I have listened with keen interest to the presentation made by the Co-ordinators. First of all, I would like to express my delegations sincere gratitude for the professional and dedicated work they have undertaken in fulfilling the mandate given to them at the 3rd Meeting of State Parties in Oslo, Norway.

Madam President,

Article 1(1) c of the CCM prohibits States Parties from assisting, encouraging or inducing anyone to engage in activities banned by the Convention, such as the production of cluster munitions.

In this regard, Ghana considers investments in the production of cluster munitions a form of assistance that is banned by the Convention.

Ghana has observed a positive trend: a growing number of States Parties consider investments in cluster munitions to be banned under the Convention. Additionally, a growing number of States Parties have developed national legislation prohibiting investments in cluster munitions.

Ghana welcomes this development and would be emulating the positive example shown by these States, by ensuring that her National Legislation criminalizes the investments in the production of cluster munitions.

We wish to encourage States Parties to follow this excellent example and make their views known, that investments in the production of cluster munitions is prohibited by the Convention.

Madam President,

Ghana wishes to announce once again that, we have finalized three draft Government Briefing Memoranda on the CCM for States considering acceding or ratifying of the CCM. These drafts are meant to assist Focal Person, Advisors and Technical Persons of States to seek Cabinet, Parliamentary, Senate or General Assembly approval.

The Model Memoranda is applicable to Non-Affected States, States without stockpiles, States with Stockpiles and Affected States. This model among others gives an elaborated justification and benefits that States stand to gain on joining the CCM.

Madam President,

Due to professional inputs the model memoranda received from seasoned legal experts from the CMC, ICRC and the UNDP we are convinced that these models would be of tremendous support to States who might consider using them.

We believe that, with the coming on board of these model briefing memoranda, the era of excuses with respect to the lack of technical assistance in drafting various Briefs to convince Authorities to give approval to the joining the CCM should be over. It is therefore our hope that Technical Experts from various States considering joining the Convention will double up their efforts to get their respective Countries to join soon.

Madam President,

We wish to announce that, these model Memoranda will be available soon at the CMC, Cluster Convention and the ICRC websites. Ghana as part of her coordination role on universalization would be embarking on an intensive outreach programme by sharing this model together with other models developed by the ICRC, CMC, and other State Parties with States considering joining to Convention.

We wish to remind States who have given verbal commitment to joining the Convention, that yes the verbal commitments are important. But we need action. We call for prompt action. We need your instruments of ascension and ratification as soon as possible.

Madam President,

In conclusion, I would like to quote a very popular Ghanaian Proverb: I quote: “it is very easy to break a broom stick but almost impossible to break a bunch of broom sticks”: end of quote. This literally means that, the more State Parties we have, the stronger the Convention becomes and eventually the more the use of these deadly, unacceptable, indiscriminate, unreliable weapons are stigmatized and completely eliminated.

I thank you.