

NAMIBIA'S STATEMENT AT THE 5TH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES (5MSP) OF THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS (CCM), 5 SEPTEMBER 2014, SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA

Mr. President,

Allow me to seize this opportunity to congratulate you on your designation and subsequent election by acclamation as the President of the 5th Meeting of States Parties (5MSP) to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) and, for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to my delegation since our arrival in this inspiring and magnificent City of San Jose.

Our commendations also goes to your predecessor, the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs of Zambia and his able team, including the relevant stakeholders and collaborators for a job well done in advancing this transnational project towards its universalization.

The Observer Delegation of Namibia takes note of the San Jose Report and is equally proud to be associated with this humanitarian project.

As a matter of fact, Namibia's association with this transnational project started with the inception of the CCM during the Oslo Process in 2008, including all the subsequent meetings and brainstorming sessions.

Namibia is known as a country that is not directly affected neither by the threat of cluster munitions and their unexploded ordnances, nor for stockpiling, transfer or the production thereof and, its efforts and support for disarmament initiatives and programs well documented.

Like the other delegations who spoke before Namibia, I would like to join them in underscoring our abhorrence and strong disapproval of the continued use of cluster munities in the current conflict hotspots around the world.

Finally, while intensely reflecting on the call by Minister Gonzales Sans to consider ways and means on how we can contribute as a collective, to make the CCM more robust, I take the pleasure to announce that Namibia is in the process of completing its internal processes and will soon deposit its Instrument of Ratification, a process we believe will further advance this noble initiative's march towards universalization, come 2015. *I thank, Mr. President.*