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## **Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions**

### **Statement**

### **Stockpile destruction and retention**

***San José, ...***

Mister President,

I would like to thank you for organising today's debate on stockpile destruction and retention.

In the spirit of transparency, Switzerland wishes to provide the delegations with an update on the status of disposal of its stockpile of cluster munitions.

The process of removing cluster munitions from active service, the selection of the company for their disposal as well as transportation to the disposal site and the disposal itself follow established procedures, which are used by the Department of Defence for any other type of military equipment.

Switzerland conducted an audit of the stockpile disposal process by the company Nammo Buck GmbH in Germany in July 2014. The audit showed that the disposal process is ongoing and that it fully complies with the pre-established schedule, terms and conditions as well as with the German War Weapons Control Act.

As mentioned during the Intersessional Meeting in Geneva last April and stated in our Article 7 report for the calendar year 2013, the destruction process started in December 2013, resulting in the destruction of 684 cluster munition units containing 43'092 submunitions by 31 December 2013. We will be able to provide the updated number of cluster munitions and submunitions disposed of in the framework of our next Article 7 Transparency report for the calendar year 2014 due by the end of April next year. According to current plans, the destruction process should be completed well within the timeline foreseen by the Convention.

Switzerland will continue to provide transparent information on the disposal of its cluster munitions and other relevant measures both through the reporting formats and in the framework of meetings of the Convention. Switzerland would also like to seize the opportunity to underline the value of openness and transparency in the implementation of the Convention.

Thank you.