

## **CCM 6MSP**

### **Written Statement by Sweden**

#### **Agenda item 8 (e)**

Mr President,

Gender issues are high on the agenda of my government. Sweden seeks to promote equal opportunities for the representation of women in all decision-making processes with regard to matters related to disarmament. In the context of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, gender is an important aspect not least with regard to development cooperation incl. for mine action. Sweden pursues an active and ambitious feminist policy with a focus on rights, resources and representation. Our goal should be to link our work in mine action to the broad agenda of women, peace and security and UNSC resolution 1325.

All in all, Sweden has contributed over 100 million EUR to mine action worldwide over the last decade. Our support, administered mainly by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), has gone to mine action in its wider sense – including clearance of all Explosive Remnants of War. Among these activities, Sweden engaged in a number of projects which include actions specifically targeted on cluster munitions. One of them is the global support to UNICEF for its "Programme against Armed Violence". Other projects include our support to activities in Afghanistan and Iraq, through the Danish Demining Group, and also with MAG in Iraq. Recently Sweden made a contribution to the on-going work of Norwegian People's Aid on demining in Cambodia with special focus on cluster munitions. These activities have continued and were last year extended to pilot work in Lao PDR and Vietnam.

Sweden has also taken a decision on a voluntary contribution to the Convention's ISU, over and above our mandatory contribution.

Thankyou Mr President.