



IRELAND

National Implementation Measures

Statement by

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at the

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Convention on Cluster Munitions
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President,

Ireland continues to attach great importance to the effective implementation of the CCM and we would like to thank New Zealand as Coordinator on National Implementation Measures for their work throughout the year. The concept note, including the objectives and strategy contained therein, form an excellent basis to continue efforts to promote the implementation of the Convention.

Implementation of the Convention is central to the achievement of its humanitarian and security objectives – it is the partner of universalization and inextricably linked with so many other areas of our work, including international cooperation and assistance and transparency. In striving for universal implementation of the CCM it is fundamental that States adopt appropriate national measures, including, but not limited to, legislation, regulation and military rules. Whilst the adoption of such measures can prove both complex and time resource consuming, they are essential to the achievement of the Convention's objectives.

President,

Ireland, through the *Cluster Munitions and Anti-Personnel Mines Act 2008*, introduced legislation designed to give effect to the CCM. This primary legislation made it an offence, subject to certain exceptions provided for in the CCM, to use, develop, produce, acquire, possess, retain or transfer cluster munitions or explosive bomblets, or to assist, encourage or induce the commission of such acts. This Act provides for penalties to be imposed upon those who are in breach of the provisions and also covers the commission of such acts to ships and aircraft that are registered in Ireland, as well as by members of the Defence Forces and citizens of Ireland committing offences outside the State.

The Act also explicitly prohibits the direct and indirect investment of public monies in companies involved in the manufacture of cluster munitions. Ireland was one of the first countries in the world to put in place such a prohibition, underlining our strong commitment to the full and effective implementation the CCM.

In keeping with the objectives of the Convention and Action 7 of the Dubrovnik Action Plan, Ireland would encourage any State Party that has not already taken on action to explicitly prohibit the direct and indirect investment of public monies in companies that are involved in the manufacture of cluster munitions to do so as soon as possible.

President,

This year Ireland has once again contributed to the CCM Implementation Support Unit. The ISU provides much needed information and assistance to affected countries, allowing not only for greater cohesion and effectiveness in mine clearance and destruction activities, but also for renewed efforts in the area of universal implementation.

We will continue to support the ISU, recognising that its work thus far has greatly contributed to the international efforts to stabilise countries recovering from conflict that have been directly affected by cluster munitions.

Thank you.