Universalisation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions



Laura Cheeseman
Cluster Munition Coalition









111 countries have joined

70 are States Parties |

41 are signatories that need to ratify

Known status of ratifications



- 8 countries are close to ratifying: Australia, Cameroon, Chad, Gambia, Peru, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland
- 21 states have ratification underway: Angola, Benin, Canada, Central African Republic, Colombia, DR Congo, Cyprus, Djibouti, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Paraguay, Philippines, Somalia, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda
- Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Namibia, Nauru, Palau, Rwanda, and São Tomé and Principe

Known status of accessions



- 94 countries signed CCM when it opened for signature in December 2008
- 17 new countries joined in 3 years
- 8 states have indicated accession is being considered: Cambodia, Malaysia, Serbia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, and Vanuatu.

 Trinidad & Tobago, most recent country to accede (21 Sept 2011)



H. E. Mr. Rambachan Minister for Foreign Affairs

Prioritisation



- Affected countries (Cambodia, Vietnam, Serbia, and Tajikistan)
- Stockpiling countries (Brazil, Cambodia, Estonia, Libya, Serbia, Slovakia, Sudan, Thailand and Zimbabwe)
- Indicated considering joining (Cambodia, Malaysia, Serbia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, and Vanuatu)
- Adopted CCM after negotiations (Argentina, Bahrain, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Estonia, Finland, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Morocco, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Serbia, Slovakia, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu, Venezuela)
- Mine Ban Treaty States Parties (45)
- No known objections

Reasons to join



- Concerns over implementation – clearance, stock destruction
- Perceived military utility / national security needs
- Lack of priority given to issue

CCM best framework to get assistance to deal with the problem

Humanitarian impact outweighs military utility.

All countries should join the ban, there is strength in numbers.

Approaches



- Contacts in the country are best placed to understand the national context
- A coalition of partners is essential
- Sustained, persistent and coordinated approach
- Universalisation is a legal obligation under the CCM