

Intervention of the Delegation of Lebanon on Transparency Measures

CCM Intersessional Meeting, Geneva, April 16-19 2012

Thank you Mr. Chair,

On behalf of the Lebanese Delegation, we would like to thank Belgium, as Coordinator on Transparency Measures, for their strong support to improve transparency reporting, as well as for their role within the Coordination Committee, and their continued support to the presidency.

Lebanon is pleased to report that its initial Transparency Report was submitted at the end of October 2011 within the 180 day deadline as set out in Article 7 of the CCM. In compiling our report, we made every effort to incorporate the suggestions and remarks made at previous sessions on Transparency Measures, in particular avoiding leaving sections blank or inserting 'N/A' without any explanation of why this section is not applicable.

We are also happy to note that we are in the process of submitting our second transparency report in line with the annual deadline of April 30th, which should reach UNODA within the next 24 hours. Given that Lebanon's initial report was submitted only a few months back, much of the information in this second report is similar to our initial report, although small updates on status and progress of clearance, and MRE and MVA activities have been reported.

In line with Action # 51 of the Vientiane Action Plan, Lebanon actively involved all relevant partners, including the Lebanon Mine Action Center, civil society, and UNDP when compiling the Transparency Reports, to ensure all information was correct and up to date

Lebanon believes the annual Transparency Report provides a good opportunity to raise awareness of the needs of affected States to fulfill their obligations in the Convention. In this regard, we have tried to include more concrete information on our resource mobilization needs in the most recent report, in line with the Lebanon National Strategy 2011 – 2020. One of our main objectives in the Strategy is to have all cluster munitions cleared by 2016, well in advance of our CCM deadline, to become one of the first affected States to be cluster munitions free.

Lebanon looks forward to continued discussion on how to improve transparency reporting, as this will also help strengthen the Convention and build mutual confidence and trust. We welcome in particular Belgium's proposal to develop a guidance document to help states provide the best possible information.

Thank you, Mr. Chair