



**United Nations Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action
(IACG-MA)
Intersessional Meeting of the Convention on Cluster Munitions
Geneva 15-18 April 2013
Tuesday 16 April**

Statement on Transparency Measures

**Delivered by
on behalf of the IACG-MA**

Mr.Coordinator (*Belgium*),

I deliver the following statement on behalf of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group for Mine Action (IACG-MA), comprising the 14 United Nations Departments, Agencies, Funds, and Programmes involved in mine action.

The preparation and submission of Article 7 transparency reports is not only an important obligation under the Convention, but also a useful mechanism through which States Parties can communicate the challenges they are facing in implementing key articles of the Convention and relevant actions outlined in the Vientiane Action Plan.

While the current level of compliance with Article 7 transparency measures is regarded to be overall positive, much more can be done in order to ensure the timely submission of the reports and improve the quality of the information provided. With the deadline for reporting activities in 2012 quickly approaching, the United Nations hopes for an increase in the reporting compliance level this year.

The United Nations provides assistance in mine action to a number of States Parties (13). This assistance, in some cases, includes support to fulfill the responsibility of States Parties to report under Article 7 and we commit ourselves to do our utmost to ensure relevant States Parties submit detailed and well-substantiated reports in a timely manner.

The UN also acknowledges that a number of non-States Parties or signatory States have submitted transparency reports and encourages these countries to take the next step and accede to the Convention at the earliest possible date.

Finally, the United Nations would like to thank the government of Belgium and you, Mr. Coordinator, for the leadership in moving forward the issue of Article 7 transparency reporting and effective implementation.

Thank you.