

## **Austrian Statement for the CCM Intersessional**

(General Status and Operation of the Convention, draft decisions)

Thank you very much for giving me the floor.

Let me extend to you Mr President the full support of my delegation and warmly thank you, and also the President-designate of the 2MSP and the Executive Coordinator and her team for all the work that has been put into in the proceedings of these first Intersessionals of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Austria was impressed with the 1MSP in Laos and is very much looking forward to the 2MSP in Beirut later this year. Austria welcomes the offer by Norway to host and preside the 3MSP.

Mr President let me also thank you for the draft Beirut Declaration and the draft outline of the Beirut Progress Report and the draft President's Discussion Paper on the Implementation Architecture and Intersessional Work, were special thanks goes to Canada for its crucial role in developing that. – Thanks John! We believe that these documents form a great basis for our considerations this week.

The 2MSP will be a crucial junction for the future of the CCM and that close consideration has to be given to various aspects of the decisions that will be taken in Beirut.

Let me therefore take the opportunity to introduce the Austrian proposal. We are currently in the process of creating the system for the future and we should - right from the start - not lose sight of potential synergies of these intersessional work structures with other relevant instruments in various crucial thematic areas.

Some states gathered here today are Party to the Mine Ban Convention, some are Party to the CCW, some to the CRPD and some to a mix of those instruments of international law.

In some areas there is a lot of congruence between these instruments for example in victim assistance and mine clearance. We believe that examining practical ways for future collaboration in the context of the informal intersessional work would merit close consideration.

In addition, our aim in setting up the CCM process is to come up with a streamlined and result-oriented structure. We need to keep in mind how we can facilitate optimal participation in the intersessional work, optimize cost efficiency and avoid duplication of meetings.

Austria would therefore like to suggest to further examine these ideas without prejudice and would like to suggest to include a draft decision at the 2MSP in this regard.

This draft decision should be inserted at the end of Paragraph 3 and would read:

“The Working Group Coordinators will explore, to the extent possible, practical collaboration in the context of the intersessional work programme of the Convention on Cluster Munitions with other relevant bodies and actors. This will be done with a view to optimize result oriented, practical and cost effective and efficient working methods. “

We understand that the Austrian suggestion was already made available in writing to delegations by the Executive Coordinator.

Mr President let me therefore close by saying that we strongly support you and your Friends of the President in all your endeavors this week.

Thank you.