



Statement at the Convention on Cluster Munitions

Intersessional Meeting

by H. E. Mr. András Dékány

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**Madame Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is an honour for me to take the floor today, at the 2011 Cluster Munitions Convention Intersessional Meeting.

Allow me to congratulate Germany and in particular you Mrs. Drexler for assuming the position of Friend of the President for Stockpile Destruction and Retention. I am looking forward to working with you, Madame Chairperson, during the course of the coming year.

Madame Chairperson,

In January, at the beginning of the 2011 Session of the Conference on Disarmament, I announced that the Republic of Hungary, a signatory state to the CCM, would start the destruction of its stockpiles of cluster munitions in a few weeks. I am extremely pleased that only 5 months after that announcement I can inform you about the early completion

of this project and declare that the Republic of Hungary is now a cluster munitions free country. Political reality will have to be brought in line with this fact; the Government of Hungary therefore considers the CMM's ratification a priority.

On 24 March, the Ministry of Defence organized a so-called "open event" to mark the beginning of the destruction process and to promote confidence-building through additional transparency measures. Key partners were invited to observe the event. The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) sent a delegation to film this event. The short documentary prepared by the OSCE-crew will be shown on screen after my statement.

We were happy to welcome among the participants the representative of the Cluster Munitions Coalition, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the NGO community for its continuous commitment to the cause of the Cluster Munitions Convention.

Madame Chairperson,

In conclusion, I would like to express my deep appreciation for your work in thoroughly preparing the ground for the successful start of the stockpile destruction and retention topic of this forum. Effective implementation of IHL treaties is crucial and the CCM is no exception. Let me assure you Madame Chairperson that my delegation is ready to take part in this endeavour. I wish you and all participating delegations success in your work!

Thank you, Madame Chairperson!