



Intersessional Meeting on the Convention on Cluster Munitions (Geneva, 27-31 June 2011)

Talking points for the UN Mine Action Team (Following the annotated programme of the Meeting)

1. Opening of the Meeting

(Monday 27 June, morning session)

(Chair: Lao PDR)

- Express concern regarding recent use of cluster munitions in Libya
- Recall UN Senior statements with regards to the use of CMs in Libya, notably by UNHCHR¹ and OCHA.²³
- Mention that the UN, with the support of implementing partners has established in March a mine action coordination mechanism to address the landmine/UXO threat generated during the Libya crisis.

Draft Beirut Declaration

- Generally agreed with the language in the draft Beirut Declaration.
- Suggest expanding the reference to age and gender sensitiveness to all relevant activities and not only victim assistance related ones.
- Ask about plans for the adoption of the Declaration (e.g. signature by high level attendees to the 2MSP?9

Draft Beirut Progress Report

¹On 20 April 2011, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, condemned the reported repeatedly use of cluster munitions and heavy weaponry by Libyan government forces in their attempt to regain control of the besieged city of Misrata. She said “Using imprecise weaponry such as cluster munitions, multiple rocket launchers and mortars, and other forms of heavy weaponry, in crowded urban areas will inevitably lead to civilian casualties.”

²USG for Humanitarian Affairs and ERC Valerie Amos said during her statement to the Security Council on Libya on 9 May 2011: “The Security Council must continue to insist that all parties to this conflict respect international humanitarian law and ensure civilians are spared. The reported use of cluster bombs, sea and land mines, as well as deaths and injuries caused by aerial bombing, show a callous disregard for the physical and psychological well being of civilians. She recalled this reference during the Launch of the Regional Flash Appeal for the Libyan Crisis.

³In her briefing to the Security Council on Protection to Civilians, USG Amos said: “In Libya, the reported use of cluster munitions and Grad rockets by Government forces in Misrata marks the latest development in a broader pattern of explosive weapons used in densely populated areas by Government, as well as opposition and coalition forces.”

- Welcome the Draft Beirut Progress Report to be introduced by Norway (not available yet)
- Raise questions regarding references to the UN in the progress report.
- Opportunity to ask States Parties about how they wish the UN to report on progress regarding its support with relation to the CCM, including mine action.