

THE STATUS OF GAMBIA AS IT REFERS TO THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS (CCM)

The Republic of the Gambia signed CCM in December 2008. As of 1 August 2010, when the Convention entered into force, Gambia has not ratified same. Till date the status regrettably remained as stated above.

This is largely due to, among other factors the lack of consistency of delegation and the necessary information required to convince the political leadership to ratify same.

We take this as a challenge and we will do our utmost best to live up to our name as a peaceful Country.

Notwithstanding The Government of the Gambia believe in the *raison d'être* of the Convention and also aware of her responsibility under International Law particularly when she signs a Treaty or Convention.

Therefore, the Gambia does not and will continue not to manufacture, stockpile or involve in the transportation (transit) in its entire facet, cluster munitions.

We are hopeful that by September this year, when the States Parties meet in Norway, Gambia would have acceded to the Convention.

Finally, the Gambia wish to encourage the Secretariat to continue with the good work and not to be discouraged by the number of non States Parties in the region.

Thank you.