

Convention on Cluster Munitions First Review Conference in Dubrovnik

First PrepCom, Geneva, 5 February 2015

Agenda item 5 – Joint introduction by Austria and Chile “cooperation and assistance”

Thank you, Mme. Chairperson.

Allow me at the outset on behalf of Chile and Austria to warmly congratulate and thank Croatia for hosting the First Review Conference of the CCM. Please be assured of the full support of our delegations. Chile and Austria are honored to serve as coordinators for cooperation and assistance during such a crucial year for the Convention and we stand ready to support the preparations for the Review Conference in the best possible way.

Cooperation and assistance pursuant to Article 6 of the Convention is a crucial implementation task that will require particular attention at the Review Conference. All states parties have a role to play for these obligations to be fulfilled. We will need to ensure that we follow up on success stories, good practices and innovative ideas and that we seek solutions to overcome deficiencies and funding challenges. Partnerships among all relevant stakeholders at all levels of decision-making and implementation are key to successfully translate the provisions of the Treaty into measures on the ground.

As coordinators, we have taken over the task, with the support of the interim ISU, to provide a first draft of the review of the Vientiane Action Plan for the section “cooperation and assistance. We then installed a working group, inviting a range of stakeholders –including the coordinators for the various thematic issues, the ICRC, ICBL-CMC, secretariat staff of related instruments and implementing partners – to discuss the draft and to complement and improve it with their expertise and suggestions and revised the draft accordingly. We look forward to receiving further comments and proposals during today’s deliberations that will further improve the document.

The Coordinators hope that this review document will provide a sufficiently comprehensive overview of past achievements, main activities, good practices and remaining challenges. The document also includes a set of forward-looking recommendations that result from the experiences of the past five years, which we hope will provide a solid basis for the drafting of the Dubrovnik Action Plan.

Thank you.