



**Convention on Cluster Munitions:
First Preparatory Meeting for Review Conference
Statement on National Implementation Measures
New Zealand, Coordinator
Delivered by Ambassador Dell Higgle**

5 February 2015

Thank you Madame Chairperson.

As Coordinator, New Zealand is grateful for the opportunity to speak to the section on national implementation measures in the Vientiane Action Plan Review. We are pleased to have engaged on the draft over the past few months and consider the document before us to be an accurate reflection of the state of play on the issue of national implementation measures.

The Review of the Vientiane Action Plan makes clear that taking all appropriate legal, administration and other measures to implement the Convention at the national level is a legal obligation under Article 9 of the Convention and one of the key elements for ensuring the Convention can deliver the humanitarian outcomes we all seek from it.

The Review also makes clear, however, that while many States parties have already taken the required action to fulfil their obligations under Article 9 others have not been able to, at least as yet. We are heartened that, in addition to the 53 percent of all States Parties that have reported their legislation to be in order – either because existing legislation was sufficient or because they have adopted new specific legislation – a further 21 percent are in the process of adopting legislation and other implementing measures. New Zealand supports the finding in the Review that further presentations of transparency reports under Article 7 by those States Parties who have yet to do so would provide better information about the state of national implementation and could assist in targeting further implementation assistance as required.

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As coordinator we are pleased that the Review captures the broad range of tools that have been made available to assist States in the process of drawing up national legislation. These have included guidance papers, model legislation and implementation workshops.

As coordinator, New Zealand finds the draft recommendations contained in the Review to be appropriate – they call for States parties to take the necessary steps to fully implement Article 9 of the Convention but also invite efforts to identify factors that may be preventing progress in this important area.

Thank you Madame Chairperson.