



FIRST REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

Dubrovnik, 7–11 September 2015

Statement at the Stockpile Destruction Segment by Germany

Madam President,

Next week we will begin to deliver the last tranche of the German Federal Armed Forces' cluster munitions stockpile, that is 648 rockets of type MLRS M26 with a total of 417,312 pieces of M26 submunition, to the ammunition disposal company *Nammo Buck* in the locality of Pinnow in the Federal State Brandenburg. The cluster munitions destruction will be carried out in an environmentally responsible manner through a detailed multi-stage procedure of disassembly, recycling and combustion. Destruction will be complete by the end of October 2015.

As a consequence, Germany will – in only a few weeks' time – have concluded the destruction of its legacy cluster munitions holdings. This constitutes a significant undertaking involving 50,000 tons – or more than half a million pieces – of cluster munitions of various types containing more than 60 million pieces of explosive submunition.

Germany will therefore fulfil its obligations under article 3 of the Convention approximately three years ahead of schedule.

Although the German Federal Armed Forces have never used cluster munitions, they held large stockpiles at the time of the Convention's entry into force. Not-

withstanding the provisions of article 1 of the Convention, the German Federal Armed Forces will retain only a very limited number of cluster munitions and explosive submunitions for purposes expressly permitted under article 3 clause 6 of the Convention, such as the development of and training in cluster munitions and explosive submunition detection, clearance or destruction techniques, or for the development of cluster munition counter-measures.