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CH-1211 Geneva 20, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations Office
and to the other international organisations in Geneva, BFX

The Permanent Missions to the United
Nations of the States Parties to the
Convention on Cluster Munitions

Interested international and non-
governmental organisations

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Excellencies, dear colleagues,

It is my pleasure to write to you in my capacity as President of the Second Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) in the preparation of the second part of the meeting.

First of all, let me wish you all a happy new year and all the best for 2021. I really hope that this year will mark a gradual return to normality, and above all that we will be able to conclude our work on the CCM 2nd Review Conference swiftly.

As you may have understood from the new measures communicated by the Swiss Federal Council yesterday, the health situation in Switzerland remains complicated. Private and public meetings are limited to maximum 5 people until the end of February 2021. This unfortunately makes it impossible to hold the second part of the Review Conference on 4 and 5 February, as decided in November 2020. This explains why we have launched this silence procedure, in order to make this decision formal.

At the moment, it is unfortunately impossible to have clarity on the evolution of the health situation and to decide on new dates for a meeting in a hybrid format. Please be assured however that my team and I are doing our utmost to be able to organise the last part of the Review Conference as soon as the situation allows. A room has already been secured at the Palais for 29-30 March 2021. Once we have clarity on the situation, I shall come back to you and seek your approval for a formal decision.

Please also note that as indicated during the first part of the Review Conference, we will need to make a decision on at least one extension request before the second part of the meeting. The first part of the Review Conference already recommended these decisions for adoption: I suggest to grant those needed extension requests before the second part of the meeting through a silence procedure.

In the meantime, my team and I continue to work with delegations on all remaining issues to make sure that we come as prepared as possible to the meeting.

I thank you again for your flexibility, your support and your engagement. As per usual, should you have any question, do not hesitate to contact my team at the following address: ccm2rc@eda.admin.ch.

Yours sincerely,

The Permanent Representative of Switzerland
to the Conference on Disarmament

Félix Baumann
Ambassador