Statement on behalf of
the Analysis Group for Article 4 Extension Requests
(Afghanistan, Montenegro, Sweden and the Netherlands)
at
Second Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions,
agenda item 6, organization of work

20 September 2021
Chile

Mr President,

Thank you for giving me the floor, I have the honour to present on behalf of the Analysis Group for Article 4 extension requests the report on the extension request by Chile. The report is contained in document CCM/CONF/2021/1, dated 26 July 2021.

The Republic of Chile signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 3 December 2008, ratified on 16 December 2010, and it entered into force on 1 June 2011. Under its initial deadline, Chile was obliged to clear and destroy or ensure the clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants located in cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control by 1 June 2021. During the first part of the Second Review Conference, Chile submitted a one-year extension of its Article 4 deadline up to 1 June 2022, which was approved by the states parties through a silent procedure that ended on 21 May 2021.

This one-year interim extension period is to be used to conduct technical surveys, which will provide the necessary information to establish the actual extra amount of time needed as well as to develop a comprehensive plan for completion of Article 4 obligations. As the new deadline of Chile would expire before the 10MSP, now foreseen to take place in September 2022, a new extension request was submitted by Chile to the second part of the Review Conference and that is now before us.

Mr President,

Turned to the renewed request before us, the Analysis Group notes with appreciation the passing of Ministerial Order No. 2 on the Provision of Activities for Compliance with the Convention, which shows political will to be CCM compliant. At the same time, it regrets to observe that Chile has not demonstrated any tangible progress in implementing its Article 4 obligations since the submission of its previous extension request in 2020. While acknowledging the national priorities of Chile to meet the health and social needs of the citizenry caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Analysis Group was of the view that the drafting of such a work plan, in which the planning for the technical surveys is outlined, should be possible despite the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, the Group requested Chile to present at the second part of the Second Review Conference its work plan for conducting the technical surveys during the extension period as a prerequisite to the request being granted. In this context, the Analysis Group notes with appreciation the work plan submitted by Chile, dated 26 August 2021, which include the following elements:

(a) a timeline of the survey activities, including information on the time required to conduct the needed technical surveys (disaggregated per each of the four military training sites);

(b) information as to which military branch or entity is responsible for conducting the technical survey for each of the four military training sites;
(c) the capacity intended for activities at each of the four military training sites; and

(d) a clear budget for activities at each of the four military training sites.

As noted in the report by the Analysis Group, the submission of a detailed work plan was a prerequisite for granting the extension of one year to Chile. In the view of the Analysis Group this prerequisite has been fulfilled, thus the Group recommends the States Parties to grant the extension of 12 months up to 1 June 2023. In doing so, the Convention would benefit from the Chile reporting annually through its Article 7 reports and at Meetings of States Parties on the following:

(a) Progress made relative to the technical survey to be undertaken as indicated in its extension request;

(b) Updated information on remaining cluster munition contamination based on the findings of the technical survey;

(c) A detailed work plan and budget for the subsequent year;

(d) Resource mobilization efforts including international cooperation and assistance received, and resources made available by the Government of Chile to support implementation efforts;

(e) Other relevant information.

Thank you Mr President