



Republic of Zambia

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE 4MSP-CCM ON THE OCCASION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM COMPLETING THE DESTRUCTION OF ITS STOCKPILED CLUSTER MUNITIONS.**

*Dear colleagues and Friends of the Convention,*

*On 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013, the United Kingdom reported the complete destruction of its stockpiled cluster munitions, 5 years ahead of the mandated timeline. It becomes the 17<sup>th</sup> States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions to complete this obligation. As of today, there are 17 States Parties with obligations under Article 3 of the CCM. In this regard, let us join hands in congratulating the United Kingdom for completing the destruction of its stockpiled cluster munitions way ahead of schedule.*

*I recall the United Kingdom's involvement in the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) and for its calls for a total ban on Cluster Munitions. The UK's commitment to the Convention on Cluster Munitions is evidenced by destroying its stockpiled cluster munitions five (5) years ahead of schedule. I am confident that the UK will use its influence in the Region to implore other countries to complete their obligations under article 3 of the Convention.*

*As President of the 4MSP-CCM, I wish to reiterate Zambia's commitment towards universalization of the Convention. It is our firm belief as Zambia that only a comprehensive global ban on Cluster Munitions will ensure a safer world for all. We all have shared responsibilities and moral conscience to ensure that innocent lives are not lost to these deadly weapons and that the world is clear of cluster munitions.*

*It is our sincere hope that Countries that have obligations under article 3 of the Convention would meet their obligations before the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions which will take place in San Jose, Costa Rica in September, 2014.*

*I thank you.*

Wylbur C. SIMUUSA, MP

*Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zambia*  
**PRESIDENT OF THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS**