

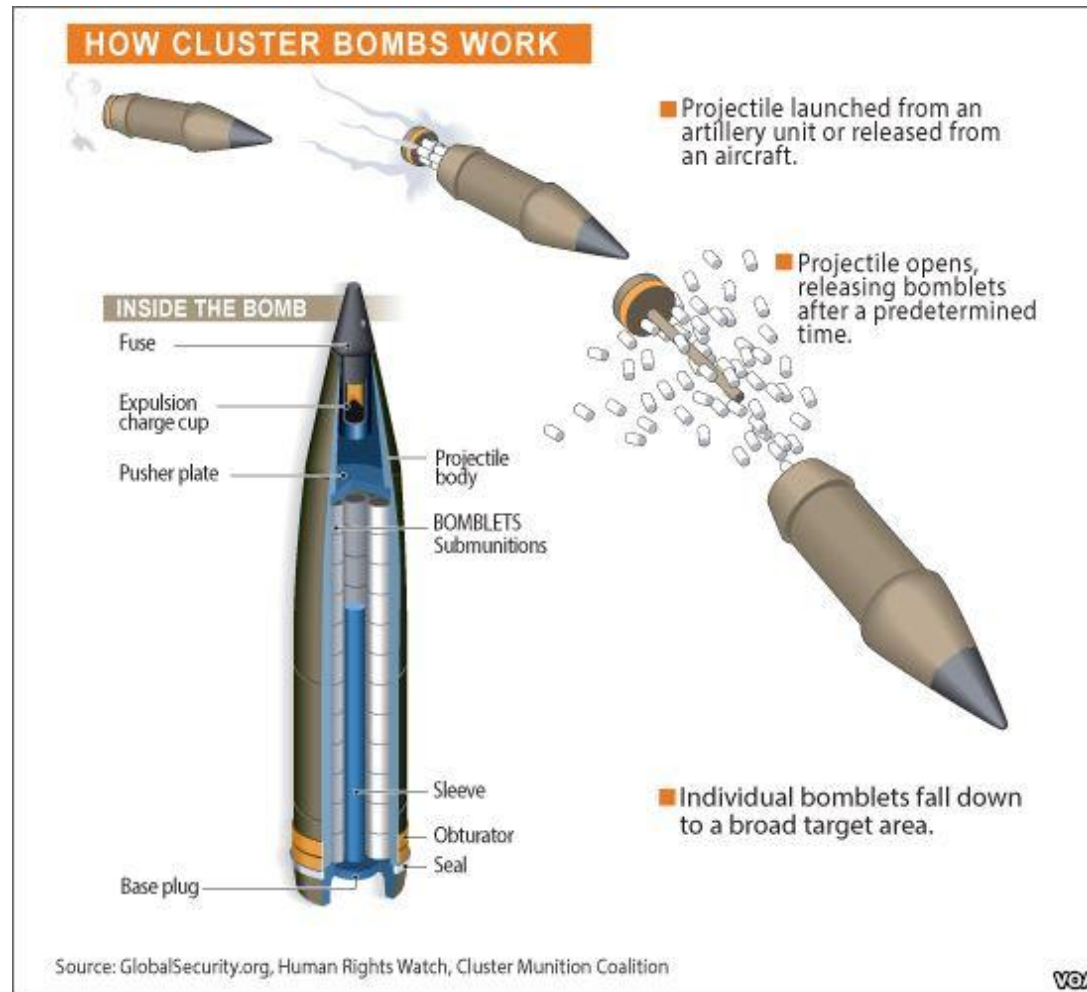


Convention on Cluster Munitions

A life-saving treaty

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Cluster bombs



The cluster bomb problem

- A cluster bomb releases dozens to hundreds of submunitions shattering over vast amounts of land
- It is an indiscriminate weapon; it can't distinguish between a civilian or a military target
- Anyone within each strike area is likely to be injured or killed
- Ten of thousands of civilians worldwide have been killed or injured by cluster bombs.



Cluster bomb tragedies



Every cluster bomb tragedy is one to many and could have been prevented. Children are often the innocent victims.

The cluster bomb problem



- Cluster munitions are:
 - Outdated weapons
 - Counterproductive for modern warfare
 - Poor defensive weapons



Africa Overview



- Of the total 54 states in Africa:
 - 18 have possessed stockpiles, 15 still do
 - 2 have produced cluster munitions
 - 7 have used cluster munitions
 - Cluster munitions have been used in 14: Angola, Chad, DRC, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Libya, Mauritania, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda and Zambia.

The Solution

- 2008 Convention on Cluster Munition
- Legally binding international treaty
- Entered into force on 1 August 2010
- Comprehensive global ban on cluster munitions
- To date, 113 States have joined the Convention





2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions

Prohibited to:

- Produce, stockpile and transfer cluster munitions (Art. 1)

State Parties must:

- Destruct stockpiles (Art. 3)
- Clear contaminated areas (Art. 4)
- Assist victims (Art. 5)
- Provide technical, material and financial assistance to States Parties affected by cluster munitions (Art. 6)
- Be transparent by reporting on the status of treaty implementation (Art. 7)



Key obligations

- Prohibited to:
 - Produce, stockpile and transfer cluster munitions (*Art. 1*)
- State Parties must:
 - Destruct stockpiles (*Art. 3*)
 - Clear contaminated areas (*Art. 4*)
 - Assist victims (*Art. 5*)
 - Provide technical, material and financial assistance to States Parties affected by cluster munitions (*Art. 6*)
 - Be transparent by reporting on the status of treaty implementation (*Art. 7*)



Implementing the Convention on Cluster Munitions

- 113 countries have joined the CCM and the number is growing.
- 17 countries have ceased production.
- 122 million stockpiled submunitions destroyed.
- The stigma against cluster munitions is strong.
- Yet ongoing use of cluster munitions in Syria, for example, shows more must be done.

**To prevent future use , more countries need to sign join the Convention.
With every new country that joins, the global norm rejecting these weapons
is reinforced.**

Joining the CCM



It is important that African nations join and ratify the treaty to:

- Prevent further harm to civilians - The world has suffered enough from the use of these indiscriminate killers
- To show leadership and be among a diverse group of states that have already ratified or acceded
- Be an inspiration and protector of other countries by standing up and say 'never again'
- Strengthen the global stigma on cluster munitions
- In solidarity affected countries
- Promote human security and address armed violence
- Best framework to get assistance to deal with the problem
- Be part of a life-saving treaty - make your children proud!

States Parties assistance

- Affected States that become a party do not have to meet their obligations on their own:
 - States “in the position to do so” should provide technical, material, and financial assistance to those affected states that have clearly presented their needs.
 - States Parties regularly meet to share information and support each others efforts



Next steps

- Make it your cause
- Ratify the CCM this year
- Speak out as a nation
- Attend April intercessional & Costa Rica 5MSP
- Promote the treaty

