



## 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)

### Statement of Iraq as President of 11<sup>th</sup> MSP

#### Thank you Mr President

At the outset, let me congratulate you on your success in presiding over the 10<sup>th</sup> MSP of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. I also would like to express my appreciation for you and your team efforts and the ISU, which contributed to the success of this meeting.

I would take the opportunity to congratulate the Permanent Representative of Mexico, Ambassador Francisca MÉNDEZ ESCOBAR, for designating her as the President of the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of States Parties, and we look forward to constructive cooperation in implementing the Convention.

#### Mr President,

Iraq affirms its readiness for presiding the eleventh MSP of CCM, especially Iraq is one of the most affected countries by the remnants of cluster munitions. In addition, Iraq's presidency of this Convention is an affirmation of its firm commitment to support international efforts for disarmament, as well as to implement the provisions and principles of this Convention. Therefore, we thank you and the States Parties for the trust given us to preside over the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties. Therefore, we look forward to the constructive engagement with all States Parties as well as that of civil society, to achieve the Convention's goals in accordance with the Lausanne Action Plan (LAP).

#### Mr President,

The vital and effective role of the Convention on Cluster Munitions reflected on the affected communities, since clearance of cluster munitions helps the displaced people to return to their homes, and enables the affected communities to use their released lands for the purposes of agriculture, industry, reconstruction and development. And most importantly, preserving human lives caused by the explosion of remnants of cluster munitions.

Based on this commitment, the Iraqi Presidency will work according to number of priorities with the support of members of the Coordination Committee, the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) and relevant civil society.

First: **Enhance universalization of the Convention**, The Presidency will continue to dialogue with Signatory States and non-State Parties to encourage them to join the Convention and abide by the rules it has established. Iraq will also hold meetings with regional groups and the possibly host CCM workshops that contribute to achieving the goal of universality of the Convention, focusing on the region Africa, the Middle East and underrepresented regions,



While Iraq values the efforts of the previous presidencies and thematic coordinators to achieve this goal over the past years, it stresses the importance of continuing these efforts to actualize this goal.

Second: **Adapting Article 7 reporting forms in accordance with Procedure 45 of the Lausanne Action Plan**, the Presidency will support the thematic coordinators in following up implementation of Action 45 of Lausanne Action Plan on adapting the current Article 7 reporting forms in line with the Lausanne Action Plan.

Third: **Oversee the selection process of the next director of the ISU**, As the contract of the current ISU director will come to an end in April 2023, Iraq will chair the selection committee for the next ISU director as well as overseeing the process of selecting the next ISU Director in accordance with the decision adopted during our meeting. In this regard, allow me to take this opportunity to commend extensive efforts made by Ms. Sheila Mweemba during her tenure as the director of the ISU, which culminated in great successes during this period, wishing her all success.

The Presidency also will be supportive to the work of the Coordinating Committee in carrying out its duties to the fullest, through continuous follow-up with the States Parties that will request extension in accordance with Articles 3 and 4 of the convention, as well as other issues related to the provisions of the Convention and in line with the Lausanne Action Plan.

**Mr President,**

We would like to assure that the Presidency of Iraq will be supportive to your effort in submitting the resolution “Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions” to the First Committee of the 77<sup>th</sup> session of UNGA, and to ensure that you mobilize the necessary support for its adoption in the best way possible.

In conclusion, we look forward to the support and assistance of all states parties, international organizations and civil society during our Presidency of 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of States parties.

**I thank you.**