

STATEMENT

OF

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

AT

THE 10TH MEETING OF STATE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS (29TH AUGUST TO 03RD SEPTEMBER 2022), GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

BY

COLONEL CHRIS B BAGAMBA - GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE

Ambassador Aidan Liddle, the President of the 10th meeting of State Parties to Cluster Munitions Convention (10MSP), distinguished delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

1. Uganda delegation expresses its appreciation to the President, the Director of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) working on behalf of the Donors' Group, for organizing and facilitating the 10th meeting of State Parties to Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). I now wish to make remarks in Uganda's national status and implementation of the convention for non-proliferation of cluster munitions.

- 2. Uganda recognizes that the CCM established a framework to support victim assistance, clearance of contaminated sites, risk reduction education, and stockpile destruction. At the outset, Uganda was committed to global elimination of cluster munitions and wishes to underscore their total elimination as the only absolute guarantee against their use. There is no doubt that their continued presence and use constitutes a serious danger to unarmed civilians hence Uganda has unceasingly condemned their production and use.
- 3. Uganda signed the CCM on 3rd December 2008 and is yet to ratify it. The delay to ratify has been caused by the legal framework of treaties ratification imposed by the Uganda Constitution; Article1 (1) (2) which requires building consensus from the grassroot. The bill on the convention was discussed in Parliament pending consensus building at local Council level which will inform into its easy domestication.
- 4. Uganda has attended the convention's meetings, including the Eighth Meeting of States Parties in Geneva in September 2018 and remains committed to the principals of the convention and has never under any circumstances:
 - a. Used cluster munitions;
 - b. Developed, produced, otherwise acquired, stockpiled, retained or transferred to anyone, directly or indirectly, cluster munitions; or
 - c. Assisted, encouraged or induced anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention.
- 5. While the legal frame work is under process, Government of Uganda (GOU) has already put in place structural capacities to check and prevent importation, transferring or exportation of Cluster Munitions in boundaries of Uganda.
- 6. Uganda associates herself with the African Union (AU) regional initiative to negotiating a global ban on the cluster munitions. We reiterate our unfettered commitment to the Treaty and re-

affirm to support the global effort in elimination of cluster munitions and never to develop/produce, acquire, stockpile and use them.