

# **FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

# **NIGERIA'S STATEMENT**

# **AT THE**

# TENTH MEETING OF STATE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

from

30 AUGUST - 02 SEPTEMBER, 2022

**Geneva, Switzerland** 

## Thank you for giving Nigeria the floor.

## Mr. President,

As my delegation takes the floor at this time, allow me, on behalf of the Government and people of Nigeria, to congratulate you, His Excellency, **Ambassador Aidan Liddle**, on your assumption of the Presidency of the Tenth Meeting of State Parties (10MSP) to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). We rely on your expertise and vast experience to steer our deliberations to concrete outcomes. We further extend warm greetings and appreciation to the Implementation Support Unit for the efforts put in place to make the 10MSP a reality.

## Mr. President,

- 2. Indeed, a significant portion of global population has experienced the tragic consequences of cluster munitions. The usage of these heinous weapons; to a large extent, continues to undermine the peaceful existence of innocent people. Against this backdrop, unacceptable humanitarian and socio-economic consequences continue to arise globally, including; internal displacement, strife, as well as numerous deaths recorded globally. In this regard, my country therefore remains committed to the spirit and guiding principles of the Convention as an international instrument that prohibits all use, production, transfer and stockpiling of cluster munitions.
- 3. As a matter of priority, allow me to reiterate that Nigeria's deep-rooted concerns over the use, production, transfer, and stockpiling of cluster munitions has been reasonably demonstrated by its signing of the Convention on Cluster Munitions on June 12, 2009. On this note, permit me to inform this noble Meeting that, having satisfied stipulated requirements under the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, necessary steps

have been taken to Ratify the Convention. Accordingly, efforts are ongoing to ensure that the Instrument of ratification is forwarded to the depository of the UN Secretary General within the shortest possible time.

#### Mr. President

- 4. Nigeria's clear commitment to the Convention could be further highlighted in its active engagement to co-host in Abuja, Nigeria; along with the governments of the United Kingdom and Switzerland, the Regional Workshop on the Universalization of the CCM. Furthermore, Nigeria's strident efforts to establish and sustain robust partnerships with the AU, the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and other relevant organizations are also testament of its commitment to the Convention.
- 5. In furtherance of Nigeria's efforts to universalize the Convention, permit me to inform that Nigeria recently submitted its Voluntary Transparency Report covering 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2009 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021. Notably, our report clearly reflects that Nigeria does not manufacture, use or stockpile cluster munitions in its arsenals.

## In conclusion Mr. President,

6. As we seek to attain tangible outcomes at the end of this 10MSP, be rest assured that my delegation will actively participate in all processes geared towards decisively confronting the humanitarian consequences and unacceptable harm caused to civilians by cluster munitions. Therefore, it is important to stress that all outcomes should reflect the interests of vulnerable people, especially, women and children that continue to suffer from the negative impacts of cluster munitions. Nigeria will continue to work closely with its international partners in consolidating the gains made in sustaining peace and development.

