

On Gender:

Thank you Mr. President,

I first wish to thank the gender focal points from France and Belgium for their updates on the cross-cutting gender-related work under the Lausanne Action Plan implementation, in particular on universalization efforts, including with other related humanitarian disarmament treaties. This work to strengthen inclusion and improve gender equality will be very important for this Convention going forward.

Second, I would like to underscore that Canada recognizes that advancing international peace and security requires an inclusive approach that reflects the perspectives and involvement of all persons, particularly women and girls. It is well documented that the meaningful integration of intersectional gender considerations in decision-making processes has positive and lasting impacts on non-proliferation, arms control, and disarmament initiatives.

Mr. President,

By adopting the Lausanne Action Plan, States Parties have committed to gender and diversity mainstreaming across the CCM, and this important commitment is most welcomed by my delegation.

In accordance with the UN Security Council's Women, Peace and Security Agenda, we urge all States Parties to fully integrate gender considerations into their work to address cluster munitions and their lasting impacts. This is essential to ensuring that clearance, risk education, and victim assistance programs meaningfully account for the diverse and context-specific needs of affected communities based on gender and other intersecting identity factors.

Mr. President,

In light of these considerations, gender-based analysis and the use of gender- and age- disaggregated data form the foundation for gender-responsive and evidence-based approaches. These elements are essential to maximizing the impact and sustainability of programming that addresses cluster munitions. In delivering effective assistance and clearance, we must ensure that all communities receive adequate support that reflects intersecting identity factors such as age, gender, disability, and socioeconomic status to fully meet their diverse needs.

We must also remain mindful that our decision-making processes and outcomes reflect the disproportionate and lasting impacts that explosive remnants of war continue to have on civilians, particularly children.

Mr. President,

In concluding, I wish to underscore that gender and diversity mainstreaming is a key element that Canada consistently stresses in the support we provide for the full universalization and implementation of the Convention.

Thank you.