

CCM 11MSP – IE statement universalization

- Thank you Mr. President.
- At the outset, allow me to extend our thanks to the thematic coordinators, Spain and Malawi, as well as to the Presidency and the ISU, for their commendable efforts in promoting universalization throughout this MSP cycle.
- Further, we again warmly welcome Nigeria and South Sudan to the convention, bringing the total number to 112 States Parties. This is a welcome achievement, and we must continue our concerted efforts to promoting the universalization of the CCM, as outlined in our LAP commitments.
- In the one hundred and fifty-nine years since that first Geneva Convention, the body of international humanitarian law has been significantly expanded. Regrettably, so also has the variety of instruments of war available. The Convention on Cluster Munitions is a significant demonstration of the will of States to address the long-term impact of weapons use on civilian populations and has embedded a renewed sense of responsibility in our approach to considering disarmament issues. The preamble to the Convention demonstrates the collective determination of States Parties “to put an end for all time to the suffering and casualties caused by cluster munitions at the time of their use, when they fail to function as intended or when they are abandoned.”
- Mr. President, the events over the past year, including an increase in use and casualties from cluster munitions, in particular by states not party to the convention, is deeply concerning.
- The robust norm against this inherently indiscriminate weapon, established and promoted by this Convention, is under significant stress, and is cause for grave concern.
- This should be an urgent impetus for CCM States Parties to focus on the universalization efforts highlighted under actions 10 and 11 of the LAP.
- Mr. President, I must reiterate Ireland’s condemnation of the ongoing use of cluster munitions in Ukraine, resulting in widespread contamination and reverberating effects, and will result in lasting humanitarian consequences. Equally, we are deeply concerned about reports of use in Myanmar and Syria. The use of cluster munitions this year demonstrates the vital importance of working to broaden adherence to our Convention. We call upon all states and non-state actors to refrain from using these weapons, and we call upon all States to join this Convention.
- Further, Ireland strongly discourages in every way possible the use, development, production, stockpiling and transfer of cluster munitions by all actors, and to call upon those

who continue to do so, to cease immediately. The use of cluster munitions, or facilitation of such use, must never be normalised.

- Nationally, Ireland will continue to advocate for greater adherence to the Convention and its norms through bilateral contacts with non-states parties as well as through the opportunities provided by multi-lateral conferences in a variety of forums. We will continue to do this, even when not successful, as it is vital to maintain these channels of communication.
- Ireland looks forward to making additional contributions to our discussions over the coming days, Mr. President, and I will conclude by once again offering you our congratulations and the assurance of our commitment to working with you to bring this Meeting to a successful conclusion.

Thank you