

Norwegian People's Aid Statement on Agenda Item10(i): Gender Mainstreaming Elevanth Meeting of States Parties to the CCM, Geneva, 11-14 Septembet

Delivered by Kristina Đurić, Senior Policy Advisor

Thank you Mr President,

Thank you for having a dedicated session on this important matter. We also align ourselves with the statement made by the GDWG We would like to hear from the affected states on this important matter.

We are concerned and disappointed to have heard some statements made with regards to mainstreaming gender and diversity, which undermine dedicated efforts to ensure the implementation of the Convention equally fulfills the needs of all affected persons without leaving anyone behind.

As an operator with long standing experience, we can attest that it indeed it does matter not only to tick boxes, but to focus on HOW we implement the convention.

I will reiterate what we have already made clear at the previous meeting of the State Parties to the CCM.

Without a gender and diversity sensitive baseline survey, there can be no complete understanding of the context and the contamination, thus setting back any clearance response and potentially leaving out whole areas and populations, impeding fulfillment of Article 4 obligations. Without diverse representation in international disarmament fora, affected voices will remain unheard and Convention obligations thus not completely met, hindering the goal to achieve a world free from cluster munitions and stop their harm for all.

I am sure we can all agree on fulfilling the Convention obligations fully and justly remains our joint priority.

Thank you.