

**NPA Statement on Agenda Item 3(e): International Cooperation and Assistance
Intersessional Meetings Convention on Cluster Munitions
Geneva, 7-8 April 2025**

**Delivered by
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Thank you, Mr. President,

International Cooperation and Assistance lies at the core of this Convention. It shows the importance of working together for a common goal and the progress we can achieve through mutual support. Fulfilling the Convention obligations relies on joint efforts – by affected States Parties as well as by those not affected by cluster munition contamination but whose role is equally as important for the job being done. In these challenging times, meaningful cooperation and engagement by all States Parties is crucial. Now, more than ever, we must be united and stand in solidarity with each other.

States Parties should engage in completion initiatives to ensure timely and meaningful fulfilment of Article 4 obligations, as fulfilling the Convention's goals is a shared responsibility. We welcome and encourage initiatives such as the country coalitions approach in Lebanon with LMAC in partnership with the Netherlands and coordinating platforms in Lao PDR chaired by the National regulatory authorities. We urge more States Parties to support such important initiatives to enable us to move forward and achieve progress in a joint matter.

We need to ensure meaningful cooperation by all States Parties – more flexible, sustainable and long-term funding, capacity development, exchange of lessons learned, more country-to-country support and coalitions and simply - more solidarity. We strongly encourage more donors to come forward and support through increased, diversified and committed multiyear funding. This will allow for thorough, predictable and thus more efficient and effective planning, getting the most out of the available resources for sustainable and responsible implementation of the Convention.

Distinguished delegates,

This Convention has saved countless lives and limbs. This has not happened in isolation, but through cooperation and assistance of its State Parties. It is important to demonstrate the Convention's success, to show the power of collective efforts, and to keep this life-saving instrument relevant in a time when our international community based on values of solidarity, humanity, and principles are needed more than ever.

I thank you.