



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES



2025 Intersessional Meeting Convention on Cluster Munitions



Opening Statement of Ambassador Carlos D. Sorreta

Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Philippines to the
United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

President of the 13th Meeting of the States Parties to the
Convention on Cluster Munitions



Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

As President of the 13th Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, I would like to welcome you to the 2025 Intersessional Meeting in view of the 2026 Review Conference of the Convention.

I take this opportunity to reiterate my appreciation for the confidence placed in me by all the States Parties to the CCM to carry out this task. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our implementors and mine clearance operators who are joining us in this meeting.

In accordance with the decision made by the States Parties at the 12th Meeting of States Parties and the Second Review Conference, this intersessional meeting has been convened to discuss critical matters related to the implementation of the Convention, as we prepare for the 13th Meeting of States Parties (13MSP).



CCM Intersessional Meeting Opening Statement

The primary focus of this intersessional meeting will be on the status of the implementation of the Convention's mandate. Specifically, we will conduct a preliminary evaluation of the progress and challenges encountered in implementing both the Lausanne Action Plan and the Lausanne Declaration. Additionally, we will review the ongoing efforts and work plans of the Coordination Committee members, as well as the priority areas of work.

This meeting will adopt an informal format to encourage open and constructive dialogue. The rolling agenda will provide the flexibility needed for a dynamic and inclusive discussion. Our goal is for this meeting to serve as a platform for the wider CCM community to share updates on the Convention's implementation. More importantly, it will act as a critical forum to address the evolving landscape of humanitarian disarmament, particularly in light of recent developments that have tested the resilience of International Humanitarian Law and the fundamental norms of our Convention.

Despite the setbacks and a concerning precedent that have challenged our collective commitment to reducing the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions, the Philippine presidency remains encouraged by the positive progress made in advancing the universalization of the Convention. A report on the presidency's efforts in this regard will be shared with delegates during this meeting.



CCM Intersessional Meeting Opening Statement

The Convention on Cluster Munitions stands as a vital instrument of International Humanitarian Law and a cornerstone of the humanitarian disarmament agenda. It plays a crucial role in protecting civilians and upholding international norms and a culture of humanitarian law. In a time when the integrity of the Convention is increasingly under threat, and its norms are facing erosion, the Philippine presidency is resolutely committed to safeguarding the Convention's core principles. In these challenging times, the full cooperation and support of States Parties, international organizations, civil society, and all stakeholders are more essential than ever.

Before we proceed, I would like to direct your attention to the agenda for this intersessional meeting, which has already been circulated by the CCM Implementation Support Unit. All relevant documents are also available on the Convention's webpage. Given the limited time available, it is my intention to adhere to the agenda as presented and move quickly to the substantive discussions.

Thank you.