

FINLAND

Check against delivery

Thank you, Mr. President,

Finland aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. However, we would like to highlight a few points in our national capacity, as we consider it important to keep you informed on our position.

Mr. President,

As an observer state to the Convention, Finland recognizes and deeply appreciates the Convention's important humanitarian role. We strongly support the efforts to promote its aims and implementation, and we remain committed to alleviating the human suffering caused by cluster munitions through our longstanding engagement in humanitarian mine action.

Finland's support for humanitarian mine action and munition clearance is directed especially towards fragile and conflict-affected regions, where mines and explosive remnants of war pose serious threats to peace and security, and sustainable development. Our current focus countries include Ukraine, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and Somalia.

In our humanitarian efforts, we emphasize the promotion and protection of international humanitarian law and human rights. We advocate for the rights and dignity of all individuals, including persons with disabilities, and we are committed to ensuring non-discrimination. Importantly, we underscore the need to integrate a meaningful gender perspective throughout all phases of clearance activities, and we actively support the rights of women and girls in these contexts.

Mr. President,

Finland has never used, manufactured or exported cluster munitions. The stocks retained are securely stored by the Finnish Defense Forces under strict control. We continue to follow the Convention's implementation closely and regularly assess the developments in military technologies. However, no changes have occurred that would currently enable Finland's accession to the Convention, considering our specific security environment and our geographical location.

Thank you for your attention.