

CMC Statement on Clearance

*13th Meeting of States Parties of the Convention on Cluster Munitions
Geneva, 16-19 September 2025*

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Cluster Munion Coalition thanks all States Parties that are sharing updates on their clearance progress through the timely submission of Article 7 reports and by delivering statements this week. We also take this opportunity to thank the Coordinators, the Implementation Support Unit, and the Analysis Group for their continued excellent efforts to ensure the timely implementation of Article 4.

For 2024, the *Cluster Munition Monitor* reports that eight States Parties released a combined total of over 100 km² of land contaminated with cluster munitions. This is a positive development compared to the 92 km² released in 2023, though it remains less than the nearly 109 km² released in 2022.

We welcome the progress made by Chile, Germany, Lao PDR, and Mauritania, which all increased the amount of land released in 2024. However, we are concerned that Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, and South Sudan released less land and destroyed fewer cluster munition remnants than in 2023. We also note with growing concern that Chad and Somalia—once again—have made no progress in releasing contaminated land or improving their understanding of the remaining contamination. Somalia has further failed to provide a comprehensive update through the timely submission of an Article 7 report.

At present, ten States Parties remain contaminated by cluster munitions. No State Party has completed clearance since 2023. Five States Parties—Afghanistan, Germany, Lebanon, Somalia, and South Sudan—are known or believed to have less than 10 km² of contamination left and should be well placed to complete clearance soon. However, three of these—Afghanistan, Lebanon, and Somalia, along with Chile and Mauritania (both of which still face more than 10km²) have already submitted extension requests beyond their current 2026 deadlines. Only two States Parties—Germany and South Sudan—remain on track to meet their clearance obligations, with deadlines in 2030 and 2034 respectively. We are increasingly concerned about the growing number of repeated deadline extensions and the modest annual clearance results reported in some affected countries.

We therefore urge States Parties and the international community to:

- Fully respect clearance obligations and existing deadlines, avoiding extensions as a default option;
- Accelerate survey and clearance efforts in line with the commitments of the Lausanne Action Plan;
- Provide comprehensive reporting on survey and clearance progress; and
- Most critically, ensure sufficient funding for all affected States to achieve clearance of cluster munitions as soon as possible and within their deadlines.

We are now in the final year of implementing the Lausanne Action Plan, with many of its actions requiring greater commitment and more systematic implementation. We call on you all for a final push in the lead-

up to the 2026 Review Conference to achieve the convention's ambitious goals and strengthen the protection of civilians.

Thank you.