

**CMC Statement on Stockpile Destruction and Retention**  
*13th Meeting of States Parties of the Convention on Cluster Munitions*  
*Geneva, 16-19 September 2025*

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Thank you, Mr. President,

The Cluster Muniton Coalition commends the work of States Parties to destroy stockpiled cluster munitions since the entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Two years ago, a significant milestone was reached, as the last four States Parties to stockpile cluster munitions—Bulgaria, Peru, Slovakia, and South Africa—completed the destruction of their stocks, fulfilling a crucial obligation under Article 3 of the convention.

Thanks to their actions, 100% of declared stocks of cluster munitions once held by States Parties have now been destroyed. Collectively, the 42 States Parties that once possessed cluster munitions have destroyed nearly 1.5 million cluster munitions and more than 179 million submunitions, a major achievement that demonstrates the positive and preventive impact of the convention. There are no States Parties with declared stockpiles left to destroy.

Yet the work to eradicate stockpiled cluster munitions is not yet over.

Cyprus and Indonesia have signed the convention, but not yet ratified it. Both countries are thought to possess stocks of cluster munitions. We urge them to ratify the convention without delay and take steps to destroy their cluster munition stocks.

Most states not party to the convention stockpile cluster munitions. Several of them have used their stockpiled cluster munitions amid armed conflict in recent years, most notably Russia, Ukraine, Myanmar, and Syria. Other states have transferred stockpiled cluster munitions for use by others, notably the United States. We condemn these actions, which put civilian lives at risk and undermine the global norm against these weapons.

We additionally remind all States Parties of the need to oppose any transit of cluster munitions across their territory, airspace, or waters.

Mr. President, six States Parties currently retain live cluster munitions for research and training purposes, as permitted under Article 3 of the convention.

Germany retains the highest number, totalling 77 cluster munitions and 4,851 submunitions, followed by Switzerland which retains 28 cluster munitions and 1,488 submunitions. Four other states—Cameroon, Bulgaria, France, and Spain—retain smaller numbers of cluster munitions. Germany was the only State Party to report consuming cluster munitions in 2024, reducing its numbers retained by 21 cluster munitions and 1,323 submunitions from the previous year. The munitions were consumed during training in explosive ordnance disposal (EOD).

The Cluster Munition Coalition urges the States Parties with retained stocks to provide clear and regular updates on consumption in their Article 7 transparency reports, due by 30 April each year, so that any reduction in the number of cluster munitions retained can be reflected in the Monitor's annual reporting.

Given the need to uplift the Convention on Cluster Munitions at a time when humanitarian disarmament norms are coming under threat, we further urge the remaining six States Parties that retain cluster munitions to revisit their initial decision to do so, and destroy their retained stocks by the convention's Third Review Conference in 2026.

Most States Parties that initially retained cluster munitions for training have either eliminated them entirely since making their first declarations in Article 7 transparency reports, or reduced their stocks significantly and not replenished them. This shows that the initial amounts retained were far from the "minimum number absolutely necessary" for the permitted purposes under the convention.

Thank you.