

## **Statement of Djibouti – 13th Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions**

Mr. President,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is an honour for Djibouti to take the floor at this 13th Meeting of States Parties. We thank you, Mr. President, for your leadership, and we also express our gratitude to the Implementation Support Unit, to civil society, and to all States Parties who continue to advance the objectives of this important Convention.

Djibouti wishes to underline a clear message: **we have no opposition to the Convention on Cluster Munitions**. On the contrary, we fully share its humanitarian objectives, and we recognize the vital role it plays in protecting civilians and upholding international humanitarian law.

The only reason Djibouti has not yet completed its formal ratification is linked to the intensity of our national and diplomatic agenda. As a small state at the crossroads of Africa and the Middle East, Djibouti is constantly mobilized on regional security, international cooperation, and mediation efforts. This heavy diplomatic calendar has sometimes delayed the completion of certain processes — but it should never be mistaken for reluctance or opposition.

In practice, Djibouti already behaves as if bound by the Convention:

- We do not produce, transfer, or use cluster munitions.
- We have no active stockpiles of such weapons.
- And we support all initiatives that promote the humanitarian disarmament agenda.

We also reaffirm our solidarity with countries and communities directly affected by cluster munitions. Even if Djibouti has not suffered contamination on its territory, we know from our region's experience how explosive remnants of war can endanger

civilians, slow development, and create lasting insecurity. That is why Djibouti continues to support risk-reduction, victim assistance, and international cooperation in the field of humanitarian disarmament.

Mr. President,

Djibouti's commitment to the Convention remains firm. Ratification is not a question of "if," but of "when." Our government has already expressed its intention to finalize this process once the diplomatic agenda allows the necessary parliamentary time and attention.

We call upon all states that have not yet joined the CCM to do so quickly. Universal adherence is essential to strengthen international humanitarian law and to prevent future generations from facing the tragic consequences of these weapons.

In conclusion, Djibouti reiterates its support for the Convention on Cluster Munitions. We stand with the international community in working for a world free of these inhumane weapons, and we will continue to align our actions with the principles of this treaty until our formal ratification is achieved.

Thank you, Mr. President.