

**Convention on Cluster Munitions REVCON
September 2026 – Vientiane
Statement on Universalization from Canada**

Mr. President,

Our Convention becomes stronger through its universalization. Indeed, only through the full universalization of the Convention can we hope to see an end to the use of cluster munitions and to the suffering they cause to civilians.

Canada would once again like to congratulate Vanuatu as the most recent State Party to join our Convention. For a treaty which has not seen a significant number of new States joining in recent years, this decision is particularly positive news, and we commend Vanuatu for taking this important step in our collective effort to rid the world of cluster munitions. We hope that their accession will encourage other States to consider the important contribution they too can make by joining the Convention.

Mr. President,

The continued universalization of this Convention is essential to defending and strengthening the humanitarian disarmament architecture that the international community has collectively built over decades. Efforts in universalization strengthen international disarmament instruments and is a powerful demonstration of our collective commitment to multilateralism, international humanitarian law, and the protection of civilians. At a time when established norms are being challenged, we must continue to demonstrate that international cooperation and collective action remain the most effective means of addressing shared humanitarian challenges. By joining this Convention, States not only commit themselves to ending the use of cluster munitions, but also help preserve and reinforce the broader international norms that protect civilians during and after armed conflict.

Canada therefore calls upon all States that have not yet joined this Convention to do so at their earliest opportunity. We reaffirm that Canada stands ready to support new and prospective States Parties and to work with all partners toward the universalization of the Convention and our shared goal of a world free from cluster munitions.

Thank you.