

3rd Review Conference of State Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions

Vientiane, 14 September 2026

General Exchange of Views - Czech National Statement

Mr. President,

At the outset, let us thank the Lao PDR for hosting this Third Review Conference.

We also wish to express our appreciation to you, Mr. President, and your team for your leadership and efforts in preparing this Conference. Please be assured of the constructive support of the Czech delegation throughout its work.

As the Czech Republic fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union, allow me to make only a few remarks in our national capacity.

The Czech Republic has fulfilled its obligations under the Convention and remains committed to its effective implementation. At the national level, the Convention is fully reflected in our national legal framework. We continue to meet our transparency reporting obligations and support efforts to strengthen implementation and promote universalization of the Convention.

Despite the progress achieved under the Convention, however, the continued use of cluster munitions in armed conflicts across the world remains a matter of serious concern. Incorrect use and other factors can cause them to strike well outside the intended target area. Furthermore, unexploded submunitions continue to endanger civilians and hamper recovery, reconstruction and the safe return of displaced persons. Such use runs counter to the humanitarian objectives that underpin this Convention.

In this regard, we strongly condemn Russia's continued use of cluster munitions in its ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine and Russia's repeated violations of international humanitarian law. Their continued and documented use against the civilian population in Ukraine has caused unacceptable harm and contributed to long-term contamination of affected areas.

Mr. President,

This Review Conference provides an opportunity to assess the progress achieved since Lausanne. We remain committed to working constructively towards meaningful outcomes and focused, practical guidance for the next review cycle, and the effective implementation of the Convention in the years ahead.

Thank you, Mr. President.