



# IRELAND

Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)

Third Review Conference (3RC)

Agenda item 9(a): Universalisation

14 - 18 September 2026

Vientiane, Lao PDR

Delivered by: Steven Murphy

Thank you, President.

At the outset, allow me to extend Ireland's thanks to the thematic coordinators, Costa Rica and Norway, as well as to the Presidency and the ISU, for their commendable efforts in promoting universalisation. Ireland also thanks Peru, Malawi, Spain, and the Philippines for their efforts over the last Review cycle.

In that time, the Convention has witnessed a concerning withdrawal, but it has also welcomed new States Parties: Nigeria, South Sudan, and the Republic of Vanuatu. We also now warmly welcome the decision of Timor Leste to join the Convention. This is an important sign of progress and is a further step forward towards our goal of a world free of cluster munitions. Over the next Review cycle, Ireland looks forward to working with all States Parties, old and new, as well as coordinators as we seek to advance the Convention's universalisation, which must remain at the heart of our collective efforts.

This work is all the more pressing in view of the continued documented use of these indiscriminate weapons around the world, and their devastating impact on civilians. We must seize this opportunity to renew our efforts towards enhancing universalisation: the Vientiane Capital Action Plan contains the necessary impetus in this regard.

President

The Convention on Cluster Munitions is a significant demonstration of the will of States to address the long-term impact of weapons on civilian populations and has embedded a keener sense of responsibility in our approach to considering disarmament issues.

As we do so, it is also critical that we recognise the synergies between the CCM and other humanitarian disarmament instruments and grasp the opportunity to promote them during these challenging times. Amongst others, these include the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons and the Explosive Weapons In Populated Areas (EWIPA) Political Declaration.

President,

The robust norm against this inherently indiscriminate weapon, established and promoted by this Convention, is under significant stress. This should be the urgent impetus for CCM States Parties to build on the universalisation efforts highlighted under actions 10 and 11 of the Lausanne Action Plan, taking them forward and strengthening them through the actions of the Vientiane Capital Action Plan.

The use of cluster munitions over this cycle, and the widespread contamination and reverberating effects it produces, demonstrates the vital importance of working to broaden adherence to our Convention. We call upon all States and non-State actors to refrain from using these weapons and strongly discourage in every way possible the use, development, production, stockpiling and transfer of cluster munitions by all actors. The use of cluster munitions, or facilitation of such use, must never be normalised and we call upon all States not party to join this Convention.

President,

The Convention was born out of a collective determination to address the devastating humanitarian consequences and unacceptable harm to civilians caused by cluster munitions. With this in mind, we commit to working under your leadership for a successful outcome to this Review Conference and towards universalising the Convention.

Thank you