

THE Gambia's intervention on transparency measures on 9/16/2026

Thank you, Mr President,

The Gambia welcomes the discussion on transparency measures under Article 7 of the Convention. Transparency is the foundation of the Convention's credibility. It promotes trust and cooperation.

Mr President,

When Member States openly report on their implementation, they validate their commitments, enable cooperation, and strengthen the norms against cluster munitions.

The Gambia recognizes that transparency builds trust, trust enables cooperation, and cooperation facilitates delivery on the Convention's humanitarian goal.

Mr. President,

We are aware that the reporting rate is not where it is expected to be, and it is a concern we all share because it weakens our collective ability to assess the implementation of our action plans.

Mr President,

This could be linked to the following reasons:

1. Capacity constraints, especially in small states with limited staff,
2. Movement of staff from one institution to another
3. Change of focal points
4. States with nothing to report, thinking that reporting is not necessary

Let me remind all of us that even a Nil report is important, as it confirms compliance and shows continued commitment.

We support practical measures to improve reporting by

- . simplifying the reporting template, especially for states with nothing to report;
- . encouraging coordination among other disarmament instruments and regional approaches; and
- . strengthening the support role of the ISU

The Gambia is committed to maintaining a 100% reporting record, and is currently working on submitting outstanding reports. Our previously submitted reports indicated that we have never produced, stockpiled or used cluster munitions, and the situation remains the same.

To conclude, The Gambia supports a strong commitment to transparency in the Vientiane Declaration to reaffirm that reporting is a legal obligation and a shared responsibility.

I thank you.