



IRELAND

Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)

Third Review Conference (3RC)

Agenda item 9(k)

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Vientiane, Lao PDR

Delivered by: Aaron Laine

Thank you President,

Ireland attaches high importance to gender and diversity mainstreaming in the work of this Convention. We commend the dedicated efforts of the gender focal points, Austria and Cameroon, as well as the support of civil society, in ensuring that this agenda continues to meaningfully advance.

President,

Cluster munitions are indiscriminate by their nature and effects. They generate unacceptable risks and harms with broad and diverse impacts that are shaped by gender, age, disability, socio-economic status, and other factors. These factors can further heighten exposure to cluster munitions, the risk of becoming a victim, and the ability to access medical and psychological services and risk education.

We know, for instance, that men and boys are more often direct casualties of cluster munition remnants, while women and girls disproportionately shoulder indirect burdens – providing care for survivors, compensating for lost household income, and often facing greater obstacles to education and employment. Failure to meaningfully integrate diverse perspectives therefore would make our collective response not only less inclusive, but also less effective.

Ireland welcomes the important advances made under the Lausanne Action Plan, which for the first time set out specific actions and indicators on gender and diversity. Despite progress made, work remains to further enhance the implementation of mainstreaming and integrating approaches to gender and diverse needs throughout our cross-cutting workstreams, leading to more effective and sustainable outcomes.

We therefore welcome the continued importance that the draft Vientiane Capital Action Plan and the Political Declaration give to this important and impactful topic. As we look ahead to strengthening the implementation of the Convention including through the Vientiane Action Plan, Ireland believes we should continue respond to various lessons learned, including through ensuring the active participation of survivors, including women, girls and persons with disabilities, in shaping policies that affect them.

President,

Ireland stresses the importance of building synergies with other humanitarian disarmament instruments and global frameworks. This includes the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the EWIPA Declaration, as well as the newly established focal points in the Arms Trade Treaty. Likewise, linkages with the Women, Peace and Security agenda, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the Sustainable Development Goals can amplify the impact of our work. Ensuring coherence across these frameworks helps avoid duplication, mobilise resources, and strengthen the inclusive, people-centred outcomes at the heart of this Convention.

Finally, President,

Inclusion is central to the humanitarian goals of this Convention. It is critical that we carry forward the lessons learned through our implementation of the Lausanne Action Plan into the Vientiane Capital Action Plan and ensure that our collective work continues to advance standards for gender- and diversity-responsiveness across all pillars of this Convention. Ireland is committed to working with multi-stakeholder partners in delivering on that approach.

Thank you