

STATEMENT ON

THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS 16TH – 17TH MAY 2022 BY

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AT

CENTRE INTERNATIONAL DE CONFÉRENCES GENÈVE (CICG), SWITZERLAND

HE Ambassador Aidan Liddle the UK Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament and President of the 10th Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), representatives of member states, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Uganda's delegation expresses its gratitude to the President and the Coordinator of the Committee for the implementation of the convention for convening the 2022 Intersessional Meeting of the Convention in Geneva. The Intersessional Meeting among other efforts promotes dialogue on matters of progress in implementing the objectives of the convention and promoting its universalization to enable signatory states to ratify the convention and states not party to join the Convention, and in preparation for the 10MSP.

Uganda recognizes the support accorded to her participation in the activities Convention.

I now wish to make remarks on Uganda's national status on the elimination of cluster munitions.

Uganda recognizes the importance of the CCM-established framework to support victim assistance, clearance of contaminated sites, risk reduction education, and stockpile destruction.

There is no doubt that Uganda is fully aware that the continued presence and use of cluster munitions constitute a serious danger to unarmed civilians. In this light, Uganda unceasingly condemns their production and use. Furthermore, Uganda is fully aware of the non-compliance to the convention's obligations.

Uganda has been committed to ratifying the convention and has extensively participated in the convention activities including hosting a ratification seminar in Kampala on 29-30 May 2017 in which the program of ratification of the convention was discussed and an action plan developed.

Uganda signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions on 3rd December 2008 and is yet to ratify it. The delay to ratify the convention has been caused by the required legal framework for ratifying treaties by Uganda Constitution. The draft law is under consideration by a parliamentary sectoral committee awaiting discussion by the plenary which will pave way for ratification. With this, Uganda will hereafter take informed decisions including voting in UNGA on the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

The remnants of cluster munitions which were recorded by Mine Action Teams in Northern Uganda were used by an insurgent group called Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and have since been demined with the support of Mine Action Teams. Uganda is free of cluster munitions.

Uganda reiterates her unfettered commitment to ratifying the Convention on Cluster Munitions treaty and calls upon all signatory States represented to ratify the instrument in order to end human suffering caused by the use of cluster munitions and promote human security and global peace.

Thank you.