

## Concluding Remarks

### Global Conference on the CCM, Santiago, Chile, 7-9 June

Dear Friends,

This global conference, although strictly informal, has come timely and shown to be very useful for furthering the work through our substantive preparations. We are well advanced and confident in the success of the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions that will be held in Lao PDR in November this year. In particular we feel very positive in light of the confident and highly competent leadership provided by the People's Democratic Republic of Lao.

We have seen lots of substantive discussions and high level of participation and contributions from states, including some non-signatories, international organizations and the civil society with all their ban advocates.

During the conference, imperative elements of the Convention on Cluster Munitions have been discussed and present states, international organizations and civil society organizations highlighted that:

- **Cooperation and assistance** have been repeatedly mentioned as a key factor for the implementation of the convention. All states, especially those affected and dealing directly with the different aspects of cluster munitions, are in the position to provide cooperation and best practice for a successful implementation of the provisions of the Convention.
- **Universalizing** the Convention will require broad engagement and partnerships from all states, international organizations and civil society organizations. The presence and interest of several non-signatories countries at the Conference was very positive in this regard. The Chile Conference has aimed at maintaining the political momentum for the universalisation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.
- **Victim assistance** was outlined as one of the key elements of the Convention. In this area, the different speakers have emphasized on the need to reap synergies with other instruments while maintaining the independence of each framework.
- **Clearance** was also extensively discussed. States present in Chile acknowledged that many affected countries have worked on clearance for many years already but recognized the need to start this accelerated process early within the context of the CCM
- **Stockpile destruction** was identified as tremendously important both as a key obligation of the convention but also as a measure with concrete preventive impacts.

- Present states appeared positive to the concept outlined for further work including the need to meet informally in 2011 in the lead up to the 2 MSP.

The Chile Conference was also the unique occasion to inform the different states about the preparation of the 1<sup>st</sup> MSP both on logistical and substantive aspects.

Preparations for the 1MSP are well advanced and present states praised the confident and highly competent leadership of Lao PDR.

The Chile Conference was an event within the larger CCM process and work will now continue. Participants welcome an early circulation of the elaboration of the substantive discussions thus far; on the elements for the political declaration for the 1MSP, for the Vientiane Action plan and the crucial reporting formats.

With regards to the lead-up to the 1MSP, the discussions focused in particular on:

- The need to ensure continued and broad based consultations to further the discussions in the lead up to the Prep Com in Geneva on September 6.
- In order to advance the substantive elements that can start to form the outcome documents of the 1 MSP, the political declaration, the Vientiane Action Plan and the Reporting formats, the Friends of the President welcome input on the further process as well as the more substantive contributions.
- Friends of the Chair as well as Lao PDR and the Chilean government have expressed their appreciation to all present states, international organizations and civil society organizations. They also emphasize their desire to maintain and strengthen further inclusive and transparent cooperation among states and friends of the Convention and wish to thank all States and organizations for coming to Santiago and the global meeting on the CCM.