## KENYAN STATEMENT AT THE FOURTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS IN LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

Madam President, Excellencies, Dear Colleagues Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Kenya, may I take this opportunity to convey my thanks and gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Zambia for hosting and inviting Kenya to the Fourth Meeting of States Parties to The Convention on Cluster Munitions.

This 4MSP represents an important step in the process that began in Oslo, Norway. Since 2008 we have remained committed in our efforts to seek viable solutions to address the fight against cluster munitions. In this regard, Kenya is proud to have been among the first signatories to this important convention that allowed the international community to achieve a common objective of concluding a legally binding instrument that prohibits the use, acquisition, development, production, retention or transfer of Cluster Mnitions to anyone directly or indirectly.

Kenya is not affected by Cluster Munitions. However, being in a neighborhood frequently embroiled in conflict, we must remain seized of the dangers posed by these munitions. Conflict situations often provide fertile ground for proliferation of all sorts of weapons including cluster munitions. We therefore decided at the outset to join the international community in its efforts to come up with practical solutions to address the problems posed by these dangerous weapons that still continue to cause havoc in many parts of the world especially in Africa.

Kenya is yet to ratify the Cluster Munitions Convention but this matter is under consideration by the Government. Kenya promulgated her new constitution in 2010 and the Constitution provides that international treaties which Kenya has ratified form part of the national law.

We have also participated in several past meetings on cluster munitions where we have had the opportunity to share our experience and exchange views on this important Convention.

Kenya recognizes that the true test of an international instrument such as this lies in its universalization. To that end, we will work with others to ensure the convention is strengthened. Indeed my delegations presence here today is a testament of my Country's intention to remain actively engaged in the quest for a complete ban on Cluster Munitions.

My delegation and I look forward to the discussions that will be held in the forthcoming days at this meeting here in Lusaka. This meeting undoubtedly provides all member states present here with the unique opportunity to analyze the impact of various issues and hopefully this will culminate in conclusions and recommendations that give rise to strong comprehensive policies that will see the world a much better and safer place.

Madam President

Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen

I Thank You.