

**7TH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION OF
CLUSTER MUNITIONS (CCM 7MSP): 4TH – 6TH SEPTEMBER, 2017**

**STATEMENT BY GHANA DELIVERED BY MR. JOSEPH OWUSU-ANSAH,
COUNSELLOR ON MONDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER, 2017**

Thank you. Mr. President.

At the outset, Ghana congratulates you, Ambassador Biontino, on your assumption as President of the 7th Meeting. My delegation appreciates the sterling work of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Implementation Support Unit (ISU), as well as coordinators France and Zambia for the report on universalization of the Convention.

Mr. President,

The Universalization of the CCM remains key in our collective efforts in ridding the world of cluster munitions and its remnants, and in achieving the goals of the Convention. Ghana has always held the view that States Parties must not intentionally assist other States in using cluster munitions and similar remnants prohibited by the Convention. Neither do we subscribe to States allowing the transport of cluster munitions through their territories. Ghana remains committed to not stockpiling, acquiring and using cluster munitions either for training or research purposes in the future.

Mr. President,

Regardless of the progress so far made in the destruction of cluster munitions in different parts of the world, the continuous use of these weapons in some regions is regrettable to say the least, and is a reminder to us all of the imperative need to intensify our collective efforts to ensuring a world free of

cluster munitions. Not only do these weapons deprive millions the humane use of arable land, but they also pose a grave threat to the lives of those to dire to innocently walk on these contaminated lands.

In conclusion, my delegation warmly welcomes and congratulates the Republic of Benin and the Republic of Madagascar on becoming the newest members of the Convention. We look forward to working with them to actualize the full provisions of the Convention.

I thank you, Mr. President.