

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS - GENEVA

Statement Issued by the Delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania during the 9th Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) Held from 2-4 September 2019, Geneva

Mr. President,

I wish to join other speakers who have spoken before me to congratulate you on your election as the President of the 9th Meeting of States Parties (9MSP) to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). At this juncture, my delegation wishes to assure you of our support for fruitful deliberations. Please, allow me now to make some few remarks on behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania.

The United Republic of Tanzania always is against the Cluster Munitions and believes that the only way to guarantee that they are never used again in the world, is through their complete elimination.

The United Republic of Tanzania participated in the Oslo process that created the Convention on Cluster Munitions. We worked hard to achieve a strong and comprehensive treaty text during the Dublin negotiations in May 2008. Meanwhile, Tanzania is in the process to ratify it, rratification is a process which has to undergo that involves stakeholders. We believe, by doing so it will strengthen the non-Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) regime which was adopted on 30 May 2008 in Dublin, Ireland and signed on 3-4 December 2008 in Oslo, Norway.

Mr. President,

The United Republic of Tanzania is full committed to the objectives of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). Our commitment is demonstrated by our ratification of Landmines Treaty on 2002 to the Ottawa Landmine Elimination Convention and demolition of all the stock of Anti-Personnel Landmines (fragmentation and blast type).

We signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 3rd December 2008. We are grateful to the continued support being provided by the Implementation Support Unit of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (ISU-CCM) and particularly the facilitation of delegates from capital to participate in the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) meetings in the headquarters Geneva, Switzerland and the regional workshops.

Mr. President,

It is undisputable that the Cluster Munitions, endanger the civilians and environment and thus affecting the economy and social development. It is estimated that 5% of sub-munitions, always remain unexploded and unattended after firing of a clustered bomb.

The large numbers of dangerous remnants left behind will remain with high risk persistence for years and decades after use, while the ground is left unbearable without any use. The humanitarian consequences and unacceptable harm caused to civilians by clustered munitions is normally severe and detrimental. The left bombs and remnants thereof, can't distinguish between the civilians and combatants, harming whoever comes across them.

Mr. President,

Regarding the update on measures that Tanzania has taken toward ratification of the CCM and or any other implementation measures to further the universalization of the Convention, it should not be overlooked that Tanzania has never used, produced, transferred, purchased, or be under possession of and stockpiled all kinds of Cluster Munitions. Tanzania has participated in most of the convention meetings and in December 2017, we voted in favour the UN important resolution on the convention. We voted in favour of the previous UNGA resolutions supporting implementation of the convention in 2015 and 2016.

Moreover, we participated on several other related meetings in good faith and we will continue to do so. The UN and regional meetings will always bring a common understanding and the aim will not only serve as the instruments for strengthening peace and security, but also to build confidence among States. In this regard we wish to continue to support and encourage other UN Members States to sign the Convention and ratify the Convention on Cluster Munitions for world betterment and allow peace and security to prevail.

Mr. President,

The United Republic of Tanzania attended this Ninth Meeting of State Parties (9MSP) as observers, we would like to encourage and continue to support States not parties to the Convention to join the Convention; those who have signed but not yet ratified to hasten the process of ratification.

In order to promote transparency and compliance to the Convention, we would like to assure you that after ratification, the United Republic of Tanzania will fulfil its obligation as required under Article 7 of the Convention to submit the annual report on time as scheduled.

Mr. President,

With these few remarks, we once again thank you for having given us an opportunity to issue this statement. My delegation wishes also to assure you of our commitment to fruitful deliberations of the Ninth Meeting of States Parties (9MSP) to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM).

I thank you.