

INTERVENTION BY THE GHANA DELEGATION TO THE 1ST INTERSESSIONAL MEETING 2011,27
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UNIVERSALISATION

Mr. President,

I thank you for giving me the floor.

My delegation wishes to convey, through you, our gratitude to the Lao PDR for the efficient Presidency of the 1st Meeting of the State Parties and acknowledge, with deep appreciation, their commitment to the process.

We also want to laud the support of Norway and her friends for their leadership and support in pushing forward our quest for a world free of cluster munitions.

We thank the CMC for their resourceful research on the subject matter, which has enriched the debate greatly.

Mr. President, as we have all agreed, the strength of the Cluster Munitions Convention lies in its universality. In this regard, our goal is to attract as many states as possible to accept and accede to the provisions of the CCM.

Listening to the debate so far, it appears delegations are being urged to endeavor to get friendly non state parties to accede to the CCM but ,as the African proverb goes, “when everyone thinks someone is doing something, in actual fact nothing is being done

In this regard, my delegation’s contribution to this debate is that, we should agree to constitute a working group or contact groups, with a Coordinator ,assigned to develop clear plans with timelines on how to target countries that are friendly to some state parties to the CCM using both Multilateral and Bilateral Measures. State parties will be better placed within these plans to relate much closely with friendly non-party states to secure their will to accept the norms of the Convention.

Meanwhile, Ghana takes the opportunity to associate itself with the proposed position of Austria that the CCM sets up an Implementation Support Unit (ISU).

Thank you.