

The Cluster Munition Coalition is led by a Governance Board of:

Action On Armed Violence, Asociación para Políticas Públicas-APP,
Cambodia Campaign to Ban Landmines, Campaña Colombiana Contra Minas,
DanChurchAid, Handicap International, Human Rights Watch, ICBL Georgian Committee,
IPPNW, Mines Action Canada, Ban Landmines Campaign Nepal (NCBL), Norwegian People's Aid,
and Protection.



The President of the Republic of Uganda
H.E President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni
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Cc:
Speaker of Parliament of Uganda
Hon. Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga
Plot 16-18 Parliament Avenue
P.O BOX 7178, Kampala, Uganda.

03 August 2015

Re: Convention on Cluster Munitions

Your Excellency President Museveni,

As members and supporters of a global campaign to abolish Cluster Munitions we are writing to urge the Government of Uganda to take immediate steps to ratify the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions.

Having hosted the Cluster Munitions Conference in Kampala in September 2008 and as a signatory to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, there is no doubt that Uganda is well aware that cluster munitions cause unacceptable harm to civilians, both at the time of use and long after. While the Convention has already saved many lives and livelihoods, people around the world continue to fall victim to new cluster bomb use in Syria, Ukraine, Yemen, Sudan and Libya in recent months. It is clear from Uganda's strong condemnation of this use at the recent Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) intersessionals in Geneva that we share a common goal of ending the tragedy that results from any use of these weapons.

Uganda's reference to the "urgent need to further universalize the CCM" at the same meeting makes it clear that Uganda recognizes the need to further strengthen the norm against cluster munition use and we appreciate the steps your government has taken towards ratification of the Convention.

With just one month to go, there is still time to take the last step to ratify before the First Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions that will be held in Croatia in September 2015. We encourage Uganda to act fast so that Uganda may participate in this meeting as a State Party and be part of efforts to adopt an ambitious five year action plan for the effective implementation and universalization of the Convention.

42 African states have joined the Convention, including 10 countries that have or used to have stockpiles of cluster munitions. 26 African States are full members of the Convention;

Uganda is one of the 16 African countries yet to ratify the Convention. Globally, 117 nations have joined the Convention, of which 93 are States Parties. Over 40 countries that have stockpiled, produced, and/or used cluster munitions have joined the Convention, including key international and regional military powers. The stigma against these indiscriminate weapons grows stronger with every new State that joins the Convention. Uganda's ratification can help enhance the stigma, thus saving civilians lives and limbs around the world.

We thank you in advance for your positive response to this letter and to calls from the Ugandan people who have been advocating for the ratification of this Convention by your government for over six years. We look forward to welcoming Uganda as a State Party to the First Review Conference of the Convention in September 2015, in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Sincerely,

- *Ms. Jody Williams, 1997 Nobel Peace Laureate*
- *Dr. Shirin Ebadi, 2003 Nobel Peace Laureate*
- *Hon. Betty Amongi, Board Member of Parliamentary Forum and Member of Parliament of Uganda*
- *Afghan Landmine Survivors' Organization (ALSO) – Afghanistan*
- *ALB-Aid – Albania*
- *Article 36 – United Kingdom*
- *Assistance Advocacy Access (AAA) – Serbia*
- *Association of Landmine Survivors and Amputees of Rwanda (ALSAR) – Rwanda*
- *Association Senegalaise des Victimes de Mines (ASVM) – Senegal*
- *Cambodia Campaign to Ban Landmines and Cluster Munitions (CCBLCM) – Cambodia*
- *Campaña Colombiana Contra Minas (CCCM) – Colombia*
- *Caribbean Coalition for Development and the Reduction of Armed Violence (CDRAV) – Trinidad and Tobago*
- *Centre of Research on Security and Development (CRESED) – Togo*
- *Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) – Geneva*
- *Cluster Munition Coalition and International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Austria*
- *Congolese Campaign to Ban Landmines & Cluster Munitions (CBLCM) – D. R. Congo*
- *DanChurchAid (DCA) – Denmark*
- *Fundación Red de Sobrevivientes y Personas con Discapacidad-El Salvador – El Salvador*

- *Handicap International (HI) – Belgium and France*
- *IANSA Women Network – Nigeria*
- *ICBL-CMC Georgian Committee – Georgia*
- *Instituto de Seguridad y Derechos Humanos (ISDH) – Peru*
- *International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) – Zambia*
- *Iraqi Alliance of Disability Organizations (IADO) – Iraq*
- *Japan Campaign to Ban Landmines (JCBL) - Japan*
- *JASMAR Human Security Organization – Sudan*
- *Landmine Survivors Initiatives (LSI) – Bosnia and Herzegovina*
- *Latifa Gono Shohay Angon(LGSA) – Bangladesh*
- *Liberia Campaign to Ban Landmine (LiCAL) – Liberia*
- *Mine Aid – Croatia*
- *Mines Action Canada (MAC) – Canada*
- *Mr. Jesús Martínez, disability rights activists – El Salvador*
- *Nepal Campaign to Ban Landmine (NCBL) – Nepal*
- *Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons – Sweden*
- *Rede para Assistencia as Vitimas de Minas (RAVIM) Mozambique*
- *SafeGround Inc. – Australia*
- *Somalia Coalition to Ban Landmines (SOCBAL) – Somalia*
- *South Sudan Action Network on Small Arms (SSANSA) – South Sudan*
- *Sri-Lanka Campaign to Ban Landmines and Cluster Munitions (SLCBL) – Sri-Lanka*
- *The Center for Supporters of Human Rights (CSHR) – United Kingdom and Iran*
- *Training Centre for Development of Ex-Combatants (CEDAC) – Burundi*
- *Uganda Landmine Survivor Association (ULSA) – Uganda*
- *West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) - Gambia*
- *West Virginia Campaign to Ban Landmines and Cluster Bombs - Proud Students Against Landmines and Cluster Bombs (PSALM) – USA*
- *Yemen Mine Awareness Association (YMAA) – Yemen*

Cc:

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 other International Organizations in Geneva.
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