



## **ACTION PLAN**

### **To Achieve Rapid Entry into Force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions**

**30 May 2008**

**Dublin, Ireland**

The Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) is a global movement of non-governmental organisations established in November 2003 to campaign for a comprehensive ban on cluster munitions and for strong assistance to those affected by this weapon. The CMC delegation to the Dublin Diplomatic Conference on Cluster Munitions was comprised of 284 campaigners from 61 countries.<sup>1</sup>

We have worked tirelessly to obtain a strong and effective agreement banning cluster munitions. Over the two weeks of the conference, members of the CMC discussed a signature and ratification campaign to achieve a high number of signatories signing the Convention in Oslo and rapid entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Under Article 17, the Convention will enter into force six months after ratification by the thirtieth country. The Convention will be opened for signature in Oslo, Norway on 3 December 2008, then available for signature at the United Nations in New York.

The CMC views rapid entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions as crucial to preventing future casualties of cluster munitions. We invite governments, international agencies, media, and the public to join with the CMC to meet the ambitious goals set out in this Action Plan. Help make this Convention a reality as quickly as possible.

### **Dublin to Oslo: From Adoption to Signature**

The CMC challenges every country in the world to sign the Convention on Cluster Munitions. We expect every country who participated in the Oslo Process to sign the Convention. We aim for at least 123 governments to come to Oslo for the Convention on Cluster Munitions signing ceremony on 3 December 2008. In particular, we urge countries affected by cluster munitions—including Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Iraq, Laos, Lebanon, Serbia, Sierra Leone, and Vietnam—to be among the first states to sign the Convention this December.

We challenge governments, where possible, to complete their ratification process before the treaty is opened for signature in order to present their instruments of ratification at the signing ceremony in Oslo, Norway. If thirty governments ratify the Convention by 1 June 2009 (one year after adoption), this would trigger entry into force by the beginning of 2010. Such an achievement could make the Convention on Cluster Munitions the fastest multilateral humanitarian law agreement to enter into force in history.

When CMC campaigners return home from Dublin we will urge our governments to sign the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) in December 2008. We will inform and work with media, NGOs, parliamentarians, government officials, and the public to accomplish the goals outlined in this Action Plan. We will encourage our governments to promote the Convention's rapid entry into force in

---

<sup>1</sup> Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, DR Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Mali, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, UK, Uruguay, USA, Vietnam, Zambia.

their statements, resolutions, and other actions between now and the December 2008 signing ceremony.

In Oslo this December, we intend to convene a campaign meeting to discuss further ratifications and entry into force and to consider implementation and monitoring of the Convention. We would like to work closely with governments and others interested in ensuring the effective functioning of the Convention following its entry into force.

### **Oslo to Entry into Force: From Signature to 30 Ratifications**

We challenge signatory states to ratify the Convention without delay to enable it to take effect as soon as possible. The CMC will launch a public campaign for “The First Thirty,” the critical number of ratifications necessary to trigger entry into force. Who will be the first to ratify? Who will be the 30<sup>th</sup> country triggering entry into force?

Until the Convention enters into force, the CMC will emphasise that according to Article 18 of the CCM and in accordance with the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, all signatories should consider themselves bound by the object and purpose of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

## 2008 Calendar

We encourage governments and others to work with the CMC to promote signature of the Convention on Cluster Munitions throughout 2008. The following calendar highlights key dates and planned events that relate specifically to the issue of cluster munitions, and also lists additional promotional opportunities for the signature campaign. Please check the CMC website ([www.stopclustermunitions.org](http://www.stopclustermunitions.org)) for this calendar, which will be regularly updated and amended in the lead-up to the signing ceremony this December.

In addition to the following list, several regional and other meetings on the Convention on Cluster Munitions are tentatively planned in countries including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Lebanon, Thailand and Uganda. Key dates are in bold.

May	<b>30:</b>	<b>Launch of the People's Treaty in Dublin</b>
June	2-7:	Intersessional meetings of the Mine Ban Treaty
	26-28:	Conventional weapons meeting in Lithuania
July	7-25:	Convention on Conventional Weapons, Geneva
	7-9:	G8 Summit in Japan
	18-22:	SAARC Summit, Sri Lanka
	14-18:	Biennial Meeting of States on the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms, New York, UN
August	<b>13:</b>	<b>Second commemoration of the cluster bombing of South Lebanon</b>
	18-21:	Pacific Island Forum annual leaders meeting in Niue (civil society side meeting in Auckland)
	21-25:	Rehabilitation International Conference in Quebec, Canada
September	1-5:	Convention on Conventional Weapons, Geneva
	<b>16:</b>	<b>Opening of the United Nations General Assembly</b>
	<b>18-19:</b>	<b>Sofia Conference on Cluster Munitions, Bulgaria</b>
	21:	International Day of Peace
	<b>29-30:</b>	<b>Africa-wide Kampala Conference on Cluster Munitions, Uganda</b>
October	<b>6 Oct – 4 Nov:</b>	<b>UN General Assembly First Committee</b>
	<b>27 Oct – 2 Nov:</b>	<b>Global Week of Action To Ban Cluster Bombs</b>
	TBA:	Launch of Ban Bus to Oslo
November	3-7:	Convention on Conventional Weapons in Geneva
	9-13:	IFAPA (Interfaith Action for Peace in Africa) Summit meeting in Kampala, Uganda
	21:	Launch of Landmine Monitor Report 2008 in Geneva
	24-28:	Ninth Meeting of States Parties of the Mine Ban Treaty in Geneva
<b>December</b>	<b>3:</b>	<b>Opening for signature of the Convention on Cluster Munitions in Oslo, Norway</b>
	3:	International Day for Persons with Disabilities
	10:	Human Rights Day