

ADVOCACY LETTER TEMPLATE:
STATES THAT ADOPTED THE CCM

GOVERNMENT'S ADDRESS

DATE

Dear Minister NAME,

I am writing to congratulate COUNTRY for its adoption of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) at the Dublin Diplomatic Conference on Cluster Munitions on 30 May 2008 and to urge you to be among the first to join the Convention when it opens for signature in Oslo, Norway on 3 December 2008.

The CCM prohibits the use, production, stockpiling and transfer of cluster munitions and sets groundbreaking humanitarian obligations for victim assistance, clearance of contaminated land and destruction of stockpiles. You will have placed real humanitarian concerns ahead of hypothetical military situations or political priorities by endorsing a treaty that will have a profound and positive effect on the lives of countless individuals and communities.

There has been a remarkable level of support for the ban on cluster munitions across all faith traditions. Multi-religious support for a ban on cluster munitions was demonstrated through a letter signed by 160 senior faith leaders representing the world's religions. This followed statements from other major religious organizations, such as the World Council of Churches and Pope Benedict XVI. By joining with those individuals that recognize the need to end the cruelty caused by cluster munitions, and by participating in the Oslo Process, GOVERNMENT has demonstrated a firm commitment to humanity.

I strongly urge GOVERNMENT to hold firm to the commitment made in Dublin by adding your signature to the Convention on Cluster Munitions in December 2008 and urge other states to do the same. You have a rare opportunity to eliminate a truly inhumane instrument of war and move fellow nations forward along a path towards peace.

Signed,

Name

Religious Affiliation

Title, Organization/Business

Street Address

City/State

Postal Code

Country

