



## **Take Action: Campaigning to bring the treaty into force**

The treaty that bans cluster bombs, formally known as the Convention on Cluster Munitions has signed been *signed* by 95 countries and *ratified* by 4 countries. The Convention can be signed by states at the United Nations in New York.

The Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) is calling on all governments that have signed the Convention to *ratify* it to bring it into force, this often requires new national laws to be drawn up. Six months after 30 countries ratify the treaty it will 'enter into force', when this happens it will become a legally-binding piece of international law: the use, production, transfer of cluster bombs will be illegal and deadlines for destroying stockpiles and clearing contaminated land will start. The CMC is also calling on all states that have not yet signed the Convention to sign and ratify the Convention as soon as possible.

Here is how you can take action to bring the treaty into force quickly.

- **Write to your government**

Write a letter to your Foreign Minister asking your government to sign and / or ratify the treaty (if they haven't yet done so). Download a template letter from the Take Action section of the website. <http://www.stopclustermunitions.org/take-action/government/>

- **Write to your Member of Parliament**

Write to your Member of Parliament asking them to encourage your government to sign and / or ratify the treaty (if they haven't yet done so). Members of parliament have an important role to play in making sure that their governments signs the treaty and completes national procedures to ratify the treaty and make it legally binding. You can download a template letter from the Take Action section of the website.

<http://www.stopclustermunitions.org/take-action/mp/>

- **Hold a briefing or national workshop key government officials**

Hold a national workshop or briefing for the government officials and parliamentarians that will drive forward the ratification procedure in your country. Use the materials that CMC and the ICRC have developed.

<http://stopclustermunitions.org/campaign-resources/lobbying/>

- **Sign the People's Treaty petition**

The People's Treaty is a global petition that calls on governments to sign, ratify and implement the treaty. Sign the petition and call on your government to take action.

<http://www.stopclustermunitions.org/peoplestreaty>

- **Collect signatures for the People's Treaty**

Encourage friends and colleagues to support a ban on cluster bombs by signing the People's Treaty. Put a link on your website or blog to the People's Treaty website. You can download a website banner from the Campaign Resources section of the website as well as download petition forms to collect signatures offline at an event.

<http://stopclustermunitions.org/campaign-resources/campaigning/>

- **Learn more and raise awareness of the treaty**

Read everything you need to know about the cluster bomb issue and the movement to ban them on the People's Treaty website. Use our downloadable fact sheets, survivor testimonies, PowerPoint presentations, photos and video to educate others about this issue and urge them to take action.

Read more about why we must ban cluster bombs from the people who have been directly affected by them at Ban Advocates blog – an online resource run by survivors of cluster bombs who are campaigning against them: [www.banadvocates.org](http://www.banadvocates.org)

For campaign resources go to:

<http://www.stopclustermunitions.org/campaign-resources/>

- **Take part in the Global Week of Action: 29 May 2009 – 4 June 2009**

The Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) is holding a Global Week of Action from 29 May – 4 June 2009, on the 1 year anniversary of the negotiation and formal adoption of the treaty. It is an opportunity to raise awareness about the problems caused by cluster bombs and to call on your government to sign, ratify and implement the treaty. Take part by collecting signatures for the People's Treaty, writing to your government or MP, writing a letter to a local newspaper, by running a stall or by organising an event. You can find lots of ideas for actions and many useful resources on the Cluster Munition Coalition website and on the People's Treaty website.

<http://www.stopclustermunitions.org/take-action/gwoa2009>

### **The Cluster Munition Coalition website**

<http://www.stopclustermunitions.org>

### **The People's Treaty website:**

[http://www.minesactioncanada.org/peoples\\_treaty](http://www.minesactioncanada.org/peoples_treaty)