



Chronology of the international movement to ban cluster bombs

1997	
Dec. 2	Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) issues report, <i>Drop Today, Kill Tomorrow: Cluster Munitions as Inhumane and Indiscriminate Weapons</i> .
1999	
Jun. 1	Human Rights Watch (HRW) issues report, <i>Ticking Time Bombs: NATO's Use of Cluster Munitions in Yugoslavia</i> .
Dec. 16	In a memorandum for Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW) delegates, HRW calls for a moratorium on the use of cluster munitions.
2000	
Jun.	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) issues report, <i>Cluster Bombs and Landmines in Kosovo</i> .
Jul.	Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) issues report, <i>Clusters of Death</i> .
Aug.	Landmine Action (LAUK) issues report, <i>Cluster Bombs: The military effectiveness and impact on civilians of cluster munitions</i> .
Sept.	The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) holds a meeting in Nyon on explosive remnants of war (ERW).
2001	
Mar.	Mines Action Canada (MAC) calls for a moratorium on production, sale, transfer and use of cluster bombs, and calls on the Canadian government to refuse participation in alliance exercises or campaigns where these weapons continue to be used by allies during the period of the moratorium or subsequent ban.
Jun. 14	Norwegian Parliament adopts a resolution urging the government to work to achieve an international ban on cluster munitions.
Nov.	CCW mandate on ERW agreed at the Second Review Conference.
2002	
Mar. 18	LAUK issues report, <i>Explosive Remnants of War: Unexploded ordnance and post-conflict communities</i> .
Dec. 18	HRW issues report, <i>Fatally Flawed: Cluster Bombs and Their Use by the United States in Afghanistan</i> .
2003	
Apr. 23-25	Ireland convenes a meeting on ERW in Dublin that is hosted by Pax Christi Ireland. NGOs decide to establish an international coalition to tackle cluster bombs.
Jun. 27	MAC delivers an intervention to the CCW GGE on behalf of 81 NGOs calling for "a mandate to negotiate a legally binding instrument on weapon-specific measures at the Meeting of States Parties later this year. Given the particular problems caused by cluster submunitions, we continue to call for no use, production or trade of these weapons until their humanitarian problems have been resolved."

- Nov. 13 The Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) is launched in The Hague, Netherlands at a conference hosted by Pax Christi Netherlands.
- Nov. 27 United Nations (UN) Inter Agency Standing Committee calls for a freeze on the use of cluster munitions.
- Nov. 28 CCW states parties adopt Protocol V on Explosive Remnants of War, but fail to take any meaningful action to address cluster bombs.
- Dec. 11 HRW launches report, *Off Target: The Conduct of the War and Civilian Casualties in Iraq*.

2004

- Mar. 82 NGO participants from 21 countries gather at a CMC campaign workshop hosted by DanChurchAid on the margins of a conference on cluster munitions in the Danish Parliament.
- Oct. 28 European Parliament calls on EU member states to enact moratoria on the use, stockpiling, production, transfer and export of cluster munitions, and negotiate an international legally binding instrument on the use of cluster munitions.

2005

- Pax Christi Netherlands launches report, *Cluster Weapons: Necessity or Convenience?*
- Apr. Following a joint briefing by Human Rights Watch, Netwerk Vlaanderen, the Norwegian Petroleum Fund and Handicap International (HI) Belgium, Senator Mahoux introduces a bill into the Belgian parliament that bans "fragmentation bombs". The bill is amended to ban "submunitions".
- Jun. Norwegian Government Pension Fund excludes eight foreign companies involved in the production of cluster munitions from the fund's investments; more companies are excluded in 2006 and 2008.
- Fall HI Belgium mobilizes in Belgium to support the parliamentary process to ban cluster munitions. CMC campaigners support efforts through a global letter writing campaign to Belgian parliamentarians.

2006

- Feb. 16 Belgian parliament passes first national law in the world banning cluster munitions.
- Jun. Norway announces moratorium on cluster munition use, pending review of its stockpiles.
- Jul. Austrian parliament passes a resolution urging the government to support 'the preparation of a CCW Protocol on cluster munitions and bombs or another appropriate international law instrument.'
- Jul 16-Aug 14 Widespread cluster munition use in southern Lebanon during the conflict between Hezbollah and Israel.
- Aug. 30 CMC hosts a CCW briefing on the impact of cluster munitions in Lebanon.
- Oct. 1 LAUK issues report, *Foreseeable harm: The use and impact of cluster munitions in Lebanon*.
- Oct. 25 Austria, Holy See, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, and Sweden propose a CCW mandate to negotiate a legally-binding instrument to address the humanitarian concerns posed by cluster munitions.

- Nov. 1 HI Belgium issues report, *Fatal Footprint: The Global Human Impact of Cluster Munitions*.
- Nov. 7 UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan calls for a “freeze” on the use of cluster munitions in populated areas and the destruction of “inaccurate and unreliable” cluster munitions.
- Nov. 8-9 CMC hosts an international meeting for campaigners in Geneva.
- Nov. 17 At the CCW, 25 countries issue a joint declaration calling for an agreement that would prohibit the use of unreliable and/or inaccurate cluster munitions in civilian areas. Norwegian Foreign Minister J. Gahr Støre announces that Norway will hold a meeting to discuss cluster munitions outside the CCW.

2007

- Feb. 22 Landmine Action launches report, *Cluster Munitions in Kosovo: Analysis of use, contamination and casualties*.
- Feb. 28 Network Vlaanderen issues report, *Explosive Investments, Financial Institutions and Cluster Munitions*.
- Feb. 22-23 Norway hosts the Oslo Conference on Cluster Munitions, where 46 states agree an “Oslo Declaration” committing them to conclude an international treaty on cluster munitions in 2008.
- Mar. 2 Belgium passes first law in the world to specifically prohibit financing of cluster munitions.
- Mar. 15 South-East Asia Regional Conference on Cluster Munitions is held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
- Apr. 18-20 ICRC hosts an experts meeting on cluster munitions in Montreux, Switzerland.
- May Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA) launches report, *Yellow Killers: The impact of cluster munitions in Serbia and Montenegro*.
- May HI Belgium launches report, *Circle of Impact: The Fatal Footprint of Cluster Munitions on People and Communities*.
- May 23-25 Peru hosts the Lima Conference on Cluster Munitions, attended by 67 countries, where a draft treaty text is introduced for discussion.
- Sep. 4-5 Costa Rica hosts the San José Regional Conference on Cluster Munitions attended by 18 states from the region.
- Oct. 3-4 Serbia hosts the Belgrade Conference of States Affected by Cluster Munitions, where HI launches its Ban Advocates initiative to enable cluster munition survivors to participate in the Oslo Process.
- Oct. 30 Belgium hosts the European Regional Conference on Cluster Munitions in Brussels.
- Nov. 5 The CMC calls its first Global Day of Action to Ban Cluster Bombs, in which campaigners in 40 countries take action.
- Nov. CCW states parties fail to agree on a mandate to negotiate a legally-binding instrument on cluster munitions and instead agree to “negotiate a proposal”.
- Dec. NPA, the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment, and Colin King Associates issue report, *M85: An analysis of reliability*.
- Dec. 5 UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon calls for a prohibition on cluster

- munitions that cause unacceptable harm to civilians.
- Dec. 5-7 Austria hosts the Vienna Conference on Cluster Munitions, where 138 countries discuss the proposed international treaty.
- Dec. 6 The Austrian parliament adopts a national law comprehensively banning cluster munitions.

2008

- Feb. 16 HRW launches report, *Flooding South Lebanon: Israel's Use of Cluster Munitions in Lebanon in July and August 2008*.
- Feb. 18-22 New Zealand hosts the Wellington Conference on Cluster Munitions, attended by 106 states, of which 82 endorse the Wellington Declaration committing to negotiate a cluster bomb treaty in Dublin in May 2008 on the basis of the draft discussion text.
- Mar. 31-Apr. 1 Zambia hosts the Livingstone Regional Conference on Cluster Munitions.
- Apr. 4 The New Zealand Superannuation Fund announces it will divest from companies that manufacture cluster munitions.
- Apr. 16-17 Mexico hosts the Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean on Cluster Munitions in Mexico City.
- Apr. 19 The second Global Day of Action to Ban Cluster Bombs is held, with actions taken by campaigners in 53 countries.
- Apr. 24-25 Thailand hosts the Southeast Asia Regional Conference on Cluster Munitions in Bangkok.
- May 19-30 Ireland hosts the Dublin Diplomatic Conference on Cluster Munitions, attended by 127 states.
- May 30 A total of 107 states adopt the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions on the final day of the Dublin negotiations. The CMC and Mines Action Canada launch the "People's Treaty" petition.
- Aug. 13 CMC members hold candlelight vigils and other actions to mark the second year since the cluster bombing of South Lebanon.
- Aug-Sep. CMC members protest Georgia and Russia's use of cluster bombs in South Ossetia.
- Sep. 18-19 Bulgaria hosts the Sofia Regional Conference on the Convention on Cluster Munitions.
- Sep. 29-30 Uganda hosts the Kampala Regional Conference on the Convention on Cluster Munitions.
- Oct. 1 The 'Ban Bus' begins its eight-week-long awareness-raising journey from Belgrade to Oslo.
- Oct. 20-22 Lao PDR hosts the South East Asia Regional Conference on the Convention on Cluster Munitions in Xiengkhouang.
- Oct. 27 The CMC calls its first Global Week of Action to Ban Cluster Bombs, in which campaigners in 74 countries take action.
- Oct. 29-30 A European Faith Leaders Conference on Cluster Munitions is held in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Nov. 6-7 Ecuador hosts the Quito Regional Conference on the Convention on Cluster Munitions.
- Nov. 11-12 Lebanon hosts the Beirut Regional Conference on Cluster Munitions.

Dec. 3-4 Norway hosts the Oslo Signing Conference for the Convention on Cluster Munitions, attended by 122 states. A total of 94 states sign the Convention in Oslo in front of a CMC delegation of 250 campaigners.

2009

- Mar. 10 NPA launches report, *The Impact of unexploded cluster munitions in Serbia*.
- Mar. 11 President Obama signs into law a permanent ban on nearly all U.S. cluster bomb exports.
- Mar. 18 DR Congo signs and Lao PDR ratifies the Convention on Cluster Munitions during a special event held at UN headquarters in New York.
- Apr. 14 HRW launches report, *A Dying Practice: Use of Cluster Munitions by Russia and Georgia in August 2008*.
- May 1 Cluster bomb survivor Branislav Kapetanovic accepts the Tipperary International Peace Award in Ireland on behalf of the CMC.
- May 29 Landmine Action and HRW launch report published by Landmine Monitor, *Banning Cluster Munitions: Government Policy and Practice*.
- May 29 The CMC calls its second Global Week of Action Against Cluster Bombs, with campaigners in 58 countries taking action.
- Jun. 25-26 Germany hosts the Berlin Conference on the Destruction of Cluster Munitions, attended by 87 treaty signatories.