



Lao People's Democratic Republic  
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

Permanent Mission of the Lao PDR  
to the United Nations Offices and other  
International Organizations at Geneva

ສໍານັກງານຕັດສິນສາກົນ ສປປລາວ  
ປະຈຳຫ້ອງການ ສປຊ ແລະອົງການຈັດຕັ້ງ  
ສາກົນອື່ນໆ ທີ່ ເຊີແນວ

Geneva , March 5, 2010

No: 026 Lao PM.GE.10

Excellency,

With reference to the UNGA resolution A/C.1/84/L.16 adopted in December 2009 welcoming the offer by the Lao People's Democratic Republic to host and preside over the First meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, I write to you in the incoming capacity of incoming Presidency inviting your attendance at a briefing, **Wednesday 17 March 2010 at 3:00pm at the CD Council Chamber in the Palais des Nations**

With the 30<sup>th</sup> instrument of ratification having been submitted to UN Secretary General it is my distinct pleasure to inform of the date of entry into force, 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2010 and, as request the cooperation of all 30 ratifying states in the preparation of a letter addressed to depositary of CCM, to convene the First Meeting of States at Vientiane on the suggested dates of 8-12 November 2010 and preparations for the same, a Preparatory Meeting in Geneva the week of 6 September 2010. I would ask that all 30 ratifying states come to the meeting on 17 March 2010 with a representative prepared to sign such a letter.

In this regard, I would also like to invite states to function as ' friends' to the incoming Presidency to collaborate on preparations for the 1MSP on a number of suggested substantive matters, i.e. procedural matters, universalization coordination, a Vientiane Action Plan, a 2011 Programme of work, elements for reporting formats on stockpiles destruction, on contamination, clearance and risk education, on victim assistance, on cooperation and assistance and on national implementation measures and drafting of a Vientiane political declaration.

I hope that you will be able to honour us with your presence on this occasion, please also see document attached, including agenda, draft non - paper road map to

the First Meeting of States Parties and draft discussion paper on possible outcome and decision of the 1MSP to CCM.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my Highest Consideration

Yours sincerely



Yong CHANTHALANGSY

Ambassador Permanent Representative

H.E. Mme Bente ANGELL-Hansen

Ambassador Permanent Representative

Permanent Mission of Norway to UNO in Geneva

R.S.V.P. to Mr. Khonepheng THAMMAVONG.

[Khone.tham@gmail.com](mailto:Khone.tham@gmail.com) by 15 March 2010

## DRAFT NON-PAPER

### Discussion paper on possible outcomes and decisions of the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions

Circulated to all interested states by the government of the Lao PDR

February 2010

Based on the practical and political requirements for ensuring the ongoing success of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM), the following elements could be considered as procedural and substantive outcomes or decisions at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (1MSP):

- Agreement on an ambitious political declaration – ‘*the Vientiane Declaration*’ – reaffirming States Parties’ commitment to the CCM and to be signed by high level delegates and heads of delegations of States Parties participating in the 1MSP;
- Agreement on a ‘*Vientiane Action Plan*’ that maps out an overall strategy for the coming 5-year review cycle of the CCM; this strategy should include clear objectives, priorities and specific outputs as well provide benchmarks on how the treaty should be implemented and how progress can be measured;
- Agreement on elements related to a concrete programme of work for 2011, including:
  - where and when the Second Meeting of States Parties (2MSP) will take place;
  - the way States Parties, civil society and international organisations will organise their work in the run up to the 2MSP in 2011;
  - in this regard, which formal and informal mechanisms will be developed to ensure that discussion is taken forward on the implementation of the Convention and the ‘*Vientiane Action Plan*’;
  - formal and informal mechanisms to coordinate efforts by States Parties, civil society and international organisations to promote universal adherence to the CCM;
  - formal and informal mechanisms for ensuring coherence and mutual reinforcement between implementation work on the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
  - formal and informal mechanisms for continuing dialogue on matters under the Convention that may benefit from the development of common understandings.
- Agreement on formats for annual reports under Article 7 and mechanisms to support countries in submitting reports and to make them publicly available;
- Procedural decisions, including:
  - Election of the President and other office holders for the 1MSP;
  - Adoption of the rules of procedure for the 1MSP;
  - Adoption of the agenda for the 1MSP;
  - Adoption of the programme of work for the 1MSP;

## DRAFT NON-PAPER

### **Roadmap to the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions**

**Circulated to all interested states by the government of the Lao PDR following the 30<sup>th</sup> ratification of the Convention on Cluster Munitions**

**February 2010**

The government of the Lao PDR is grateful to the member states of the United Nations for adopting by consensus General Assembly resolution A/RES/64/36 on 2 December 2009 welcoming the offer of the Lao PDR to host the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions following its entry into force. With the 30<sup>th</sup> ratification having been deposited at the United Nations on 17 February 2010, the Convention will enter into force on 1 August 2010. The Lao PDR has made arrangements to host the First Meeting in Vientiane, Lao PDR, from 8-12 November 2010. More details on arrangements for the First Meeting will be available in due course.

The government of the Lao PDR encourages all states to sign and ratify the Convention on Cluster Munitions without delay and, after the day of entry into force, to accede to the Convention in advance of the First Meeting of the States Parties.

The government of the Lao PDR further invites all interested states and organisations to:

- undertake regional work to support signature and ratification of and accession to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, including at a regional meeting to be held in South Africa on 25-26 March 2010;
- meet before the First Meeting of States Parties, including at an open-ended working meeting to be hosted by Chile from 7-9 June 2010, where states can:
  - discuss efforts to promote universal adherence to the Convention;
  - exchange views on all aspects of the Convention, in particular cooperation and assistance; and,
  - discuss and prepare the substantive and procedural work of the First Meeting of States Parties;
- celebrate the day of entry into force on Sunday 1 August 2010, being the first day of the sixth month after the month in which the 30<sup>th</sup> ratification is deposited;
- use all opportunities available to them to promote adherence to and implementation of the Convention bilaterally and in all relevant multilateral fora;
- coordinate their work to promote universal adherence to the Convention on Cluster Munitions by sharing information through regular coordination meetings based on a common set of objectives and priorities for universalisation with a view to attracting the maximum number of states having consent to be bound by the Convention before the First Meeting of States Parties;
- continue and further develop the effective partnerships with all relevant organisations, including the United Nations, the ICRC and the Cluster Munition Coalition in their work towards the First Meeting of the States Parties.

**Agenda:**

- Dates for the 1MSP, Suggested at Vientiane, 8-12 November 2010
- Dates for preparatory Meeting at Geneva, 6 September 2010
- Informal invitation and request of volunteers for function as friends of incoming presidency on preparations in advance of 1MSP