



CMC intervention on the Vientiane Action Plan

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We began the day with lively drumming reminding us all that vigorous, life enhancing action is required. So we, of the CMC, look forward to working together to build a strong realistic action oriented plan. During the coming days we will make constructive suggestions in the specific areas to be discussed. We note the call of Norway for all to be involved in implementing the plan and CMC through its member organizations pledge to help in survivor assistance, clearance, advocacy and monitoring. At the outset, however, I want to draw attention to one important sentence in the Vientiane Action Plan Discussion Paper.

It reads:

Actions need to acknowledge the special role of survivors, victims and representatives from affected communities in the implementation efforts

Indeed the very credibility of the treaty, which was signed with so much joy in Indeed Oslo is gauged by the effect it has on improving the quality of life and upholding the rights of survivors, on cleared land made available to affected communities and the prevention of all production, use and stockpiling of these horribly cruel, inhumane weapons.

Alongside this very important meeting in Chile, another special event is taking place in our world this week- the opening of the World Cup in South Africa. Youern Sam En, a cluster munitions advocate and survivor sent this message to all World Cup Players

Can you please kick a special football for me? I lost my two arms and both eyes to a cluster munitions bomblet and I want you famous footballers to support our cluster munitions treaty .I want a fair game for cluster bomb survivors, cleared fields for sports and farms

Now he asks you fans of the cluster bomb treaty and many also fans of the world cup to get on board, beat the drum and begin plans that really make a difference in the lives of survivors and cluster munition affected countries.He says:

I am signing off with my foot as I have no eyes or arms. Please use your brains and creativity and hearts to kick off a good action plan And then I want you to implement it fast .like getting a goal in the first five minutes.

Hopefully yours

Sam En