



**Statement on Monitoring and Compliance by Jacqueline Hansen, Cluster Munition Coalition
Global Meeting on the Convention on Cluster Munitions
Santiago, Chile 8 June 2010**

Mister President, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Sharing up to date, detailed data is a precursor for taking effective actions in support of the Convention's implementation. Without information about the number and types of stockpiled cluster munitions, effective plans cannot be made for their destruction. Contaminated areas cannot be cleared without details about the location of cluster munition remnants. The needs of victims cannot adequately be addressed unless information about available laws and policies, national plans, and existing services are articulated. Resources cannot be mobilized unless programmatic needs are shared with those in a position to provide assistance. This is why Articles 3 and 7 of the Convention include a legal obligation to report on the status of treaty implementation.

On behalf of the Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC) I would like to share some experiences from the Mine Ban Treaty with regard to civil society monitoring, and set out the CMC's views on what is needed for effective reporting and monitoring under the Convention on Cluster Munitions. For over a decade Landmine Monitor, which has been renamed Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor, has reported on the status of Mine Ban Treaty implementation. Article 7 reports promote transparency and confidence-building by compelling states to publicly report on issues previously considered sensitive, such as the composition of stockpiles. But States Parties' reporting has not been sufficient to provide the full picture, either at the national or global levels, of the progress made or remaining challenges in implementing the treaty. Some States Parties have not regularly submitted reports, and some reports have included insufficient detail. Our research has served as a complement to States Parties' reporting, and our extensive civil society reporting network, operating in the treaty's spirit of transparency, openness, and cooperation, has engaged governments, international organizations, and civil society in the data gathering process. We have consistently been able to provide a full and balanced analysis of the state of treaty implementation, both at the national and global levels. We would like to extend our gratitude to States who have supported the Monitor, and trust we can count on their continued support for civil society monitoring.

Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor will report on this Convention's implementation for the CMC, and our reporting will serve to complement reports submitted under Articles 3 and 7, but it should not replace them. The responsibility to gather data and report lies with States Parties. Monitor research involves asking questions of States, questions not always answered in transparency reports. Our research process has identified gaps in States' reporting, and has often led to States providing more details in their reports and submitting them on a more regular basis. Our hope is that transparency reporting under the Convention on Cluster Munitions will build upon the experiences with Mine Ban Treaty reporting. We would like to extend our gratitude to Belgium, as a Friend of the Chair, for drafting a solid and pragmatic framework for transparency reporting, and we would like to emphasize the need for regular, detailed, accessible reporting in a standardized format, to best support treaty implementation.

To help build confidence among States Parties that they are all respecting their Convention obligations, and to allow for regular assessment of progress, annual reporting is required. Under Article 7, initial reports are due 180 days after the Convention's entry into force, which, for the first 30 States Parties is 27 January 2011, and subsequently annual updates must be submitted by 30 April. As well, under Article 3, reporting on the retention, acquisition, or transfer of cluster munitions must be submitted annually on 30 April.

To facilitate effective implementation and assistance, the reporting formats must include all the details required by the treaty, but must also include space for more general information on States Parties' work plans, progress in putting them in place, and obstacles they are facing, especially areas where international cooperation and assistance is sought. They should include information on the composition of stockpiles and plans to destroy them, any additional stockpiles found after declared completion of stockpile destruction programs, and retained munitions, and they should outline progress in implementing clearance, risk education, and victim assistance programs. Full details about both in kind and monetary contributions dedicated to meeting Convention obligations, and international assistance sought should also be included.

In the Convention's spirit of transparency, reports should be completed using a comprehensive, detailed template, and should be posted upon submission to a searchable, user-friendly database on the UN website. The reporting template will need to be approved at the First Meeting of States Parties, to ensure that the first 30 States can prepare their reports for submission by 27 January 2011.

Detailed, accurate, updated reporting is crucial, but the reporting process need not add an undue burden on States Parties. Finding synergies with reporting requirements in related conventions may help States Parties fulfill their reporting requirements more efficiently. For example, States Parties providing assistance to both landmine and cluster munition victims should develop one report covering efforts to support both types of victims. Similarly, one report could cover clearance of both landmines and cluster munition remnants, provided that it disaggregates data by munition type, and follows the higher standard of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, which adds to the information required by the Mine Ban Treaty.

Regular progress reports are essential to measuring the impact the Convention is having on the lives of people in affected communities. The effective implementation by States Parties of the legal obligation to report, as outlined in Articles 3 and 7, will provide the international community with the information necessary to implement the Convention.

Thank you.