

9th Meeting of the States Parties of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)
September 2-3, 2019

Topic: Implementation Support (item 9 (j) of the provisional agenda)

When: Wednesday September 4th, 2019, 10:00-13:00

Where: Room XX, E Building of the Palais des Nations

Statement on Implementation Support by Canada

Mr. President,

Canada is firmly committed to the Convention on Cluster Munitions' goal of ending the human suffering and casualties caused by cluster munitions.

We are grateful to the Convention's Committees for the dedication that they have shown this year and every year to this important cause. Our discussions this week have highlighted the importance of maintaining engagement in all facets of the Convention and we hope that this will inspire our work in 2020. Though we have made great strides, there is still much to be done.

Mr. President,

We were pleased to announce in 2018 that Canada had expanded the mandate of its Weapons Threat Reduction Program to enable institutional support to international legal instruments dealing with conventional weapons, such as the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Through this program, Canada aims to promote the universalization of these legal instruments, which are important to the international rules-based order.

In this context, Canada is happy to share that we are in the middle of a three-year-\$3 million commitment wherein Canadian contributions are being used to support the implementation and the universalization of the Convention on Cluster Munitions, as well as the Ottawa Convention.

This three-year long commitment, which was announced in 2018, includes:

- \$171,000 to the Implementation Support Unit of the Convention on Cluster Munitions;
- \$200,000 to the Implementation Support Unit of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention;
- \$1.4 million to the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining to support the ongoing development of the International Mine Action Standards, National Mine Action Strategies and the Information Management System for Mine Action.
- And, \$880,000 to the Gender and Mine Action Program for research and capacity development on gender and diversity across a broad range of mine action stakeholders.

The support provided through our Weapons Threat Reduction Program reflects Canada's deep commitment to strengthening a rules-based international order.

Mr. President,

In the decade since the Convention on Cluster Munitions was first signed in December 2008, our collective efforts have had undoubted success towards ending the human suffering and casualties caused by cluster munitions. Nevertheless, let us not underestimate the work that remains to be done.

This Convention stands as a pillar of International Humanitarian Law and provides vital reinforcement to the strong international norm protecting civilians from the debilitating humanitarian impacts of the use of mines and explosive weapons. Let us continue to work all together to achieve its goal.

I thank you, Mr. President.