



**Statement by South Africa to the Ninth Meeting of States Parties of the  
Convention on Cluster Munitions**  
2 September 2019

[Check against delivery]

Storage and Stockpile Destruction (item 9 (b) of the agenda)

Mr President,

As this is the first time that my delegation takes the floor, allow me to congratulate you on your appointment as President of this Ninth Meeting of States Parties (9MSP) to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). We welcome all of the work undertaken in preparation for this meeting and my delegation wishes to assure you of its full support and cooperation.

We also take this opportunity to welcome Gambia, Namibia and Philippines to our Convention.

Mr President,

I thank Mozambique and Austria, as Coordinators on Storage and Stockpile Destruction, for the report provided and the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) for its continued valuable support in the implementation of the Convention.

South Africa has consistently supported steps taken nationally, regionally and globally in recent years aimed at prohibiting the use of cluster munitions to put an end, for all time, to the suffering and casualties caused by their use. As part of our commitment to multilateralism and a rules based international order, based on our conviction that the use of these weapons in conflicts cause unacceptable harm to civilian populations, South Africa has been a staunch supporter of the full implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions. As part of our obligations under the Treaty, South Africa has taken out of commission and secured all prohibited stockpiled cluster munitions for their planned destruction, as stipulated by Article 3 of the Convention. South Africa remains fully committed to concluding this destruction process under Article 3 within the specified time frame.

Mr President,

In compliance with Article 7 on transparency measures, South Africa submitted its Initial Transparency Report and is currently completing its outstanding annual reports. South Africa reaffirms its commitment to fully implement all the provisions of this worthy Convention and will continue to remain steadfast in fully reinforcing the

norms established by this Convention and in implementing its obligations under the provisions of the Convention.

South Africa reaffirms its commitment to play an active role in partnership with other States and members of civil society towards the achievement of a cluster munitions free world.

I thank you.