MEETING OF THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS

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POSITION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS

Presented on behalf of the UN Mine Action Team¹

The United Nations calls on Member States to address immediately the horrendous humanitarian, human rights and development effects of cluster munitions by concluding a legally binding instrument of international humanitarian law that:

- prohibits the use, development, production, stockpiling and transfer of cluster munitions that cause unacceptable harm to civilians;
- requires the destruction of current stockpiles of those munitions; and
- provides for clearance, risk education and other risk mitigation activities, victim assistance, assistance and cooperation, and compliance and transparency measures.

Until such a treaty is adopted, the UN calls on Member States to take domestic measures to immediately freeze the use and transfer of all cluster munitions.

¹ This position was formally adopted at the UN Principals Meeting of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action held at UN Headquarters in New York City on the 17th of September 2007.