

Dublin 19 – 30 May 2008

Convention on Cluster Munitions, CCM / 77, 30 May 2008 (excerpt)

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Article 1

General obligations and scope of application

1. Each State Party undertakes never under any circumstances to:
 - (a) Use cluster munitions;
 - (b) Develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile, retain or transfer to anyone, directly or indirectly, cluster munitions;
 - (c) Assist, encourage or induce anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention.
2. Paragraph 1 of this Article applies, *mutatis mutandis*, to explosive bomblets that are specifically designed to be dispersed or released from dispensers affixed to aircraft.
3. This Convention does not apply to mines.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Convention:

1. “**Cluster munition victims**” means all persons who have been killed or suffered physical or psychological injury, economic loss, social marginalisation or substantial impairment of the realisation of their rights caused by the use of cluster munitions. They include those persons directly impacted by cluster munitions as well as their affected families and communities;
2. “**Cluster munition**” means a conventional munition that is designed to disperse or release explosive submunitions each weighing less than 20 kilograms, and includes those explosive submunitions. It does not mean the following:
 - (a) A munition or submunition designed to dispense flares, smoke, pyrotechnics or chaff; or a munition designed exclusively for an air defence role;
 - (b) A munition or submunition designed to produce electrical or electronic effects;
 - (c) A munition that, in order to avoid indiscriminate area effects and the risks posed by unexploded submunitions, has all of the following characteristics:
 - (i) Each munition contains fewer than ten explosive submunitions;
 - (ii) Each explosive submunition weighs more than four kilograms;
 - (iii) Each explosive submunition is designed to detect and engage a single target object;
 - (iv) Each explosive submunition is equipped with an electronic self-destruction mechanism;
 - (v) Each explosive submunition is equipped with an electronic self-deactivating feature;
3. “**Explosive submunition**” means a conventional munition that in order to perform its task is dispersed or released by a cluster munition and is designed to function by detonating an explosive charge prior to, on or after impact;
4. “**Failed cluster munition**” means a cluster munition that has been fired, dropped, launched, projected or otherwise delivered and which should have dispersed or released its explosive submunitions but failed to do so;

5. “**Unexploded submunition**” means an explosive submunition that has been dispersed or released by, or otherwise separated from, a cluster munition and has failed to explode as intended;

6. “**Abandoned cluster munitions**” means cluster munitions or explosive submunitions that have not been used and that have been left behind or dumped, and that are no longer under the control of the party that left them behind or dumped them. They may or may not have been prepared for use;

7. “**Cluster munition remnants**” means failed cluster munitions, abandoned cluster munitions, unexploded submunitions and unexploded bomblets;

8. “**Transfer**” involves, in addition to the physical movement of cluster munitions into or from national territory, the transfer of title to and control over cluster munitions, but does not involve the transfer of territory containing cluster munition remnants;

9. “**Self-destruction mechanism**” means an incorporated automatically-functioning mechanism which is in addition to the primary initiating mechanism of the munition and which secures the destruction of the munition into which it is incorporated;

10. “**Self-deactivating**” means automatically rendering a munition inoperable by means of the irreversible exhaustion of a component, for example a battery, that is essential to the operation of the munition;

11. “**Cluster munition contaminated area**” means an area known or suspected to contain cluster munition remnants;

12. “**Mine**” means a munition designed to be placed under, on or near the ground or other surface area and to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person or a vehicle;

13. “**Explosive bomblet**” means a conventional munition, weighing less than 20 kilograms, which is not self-propelled and which, in order to perform its task, is dispersed or released by a dispenser, and is designed to function by detonating an explosive charge prior to, on or after impact;

14. “**Dispenser**” means a container that is designed to disperse or release explosive bomblets and which is affixed to an aircraft at the time of dispersal or release;

15. “**Unexploded bomblet**” means an explosive bomblet that has been dispersed, released or otherwise separated from a dispenser and has failed to explode as intended.

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