



CMC Universalisation Campaign Update

6 August 2010

This is an update on the CMC's campaign for universalisation of the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions – the first since the Convention entered into force on 1 August 2010. We are working together to increase accessions and ratifications to the Convention before the Convention's First Meeting of States Parties (1MSP) in Vientiane, Lao PDR, from 9-12 November 2010. The last universalisation update was issued on 13 July 2010.

SIGNATURES / ACCESSIONS (108)

Since our last update, two more states signed the Convention before it entered into force on 1 August 2010: Antigua and Barbuda signed it on 16 July 2010 and Djibouti signed it on 30 July 2010, bringing the total number of signatories to 108. Now that the Convention has entered into force, states can no longer sign the Convention but instead must accede to it in a two-step process which is essentially signing and ratifying at the same time.

In the 100 days counting down to entry into force, the CMC's Countdown Campaign targeted 14 non-signatories: [Cambodia](#), [Tajikistan](#), [Vietnam](#), [Brazil](#), [Jordan](#), [Argentina](#), [Serbia](#), [Grenada](#), [Bangladesh](#), [Papua New Guinea](#), [Sudan](#), [Slovakia](#), [Morocco](#) and [Thailand](#).

For more information on the countdown, visit: <http://www.stopclustermunitions.org/countdown/>

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs co-organized with the International Committee of the Red Cross a Roundtable Discussion on the Convention on Cluster Munitions in Bangkok on 29-30 July 2010. Participants included representatives from the Ministry of Defense and other Thai government agencies, Australia, Germany, Japan, Laos, the UN, the Cluster Munition Coalition, the Thai Campaign, and the GICHD.

Campaigners in over 80 countries took part in entry into force actions, which is the highest level of participation ever for a CMC action day. On 1 August, Sudan announced that it would accede to the Convention before November of this year. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Pope Benedict XVI made public statements supporting the Convention, and several governments issued press statements welcoming its entry into force, including the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in the United Kingdom, the government of Norway, and the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs.

RATIFICATIONS (38)

Comoros ratified the Convention on 28 July.

* **Ratification imminent** – Three countries have completed domestic ratification of the Convention and are now poised to deposit: Chile, Ghana and Tunisia.

Ghana completed its domestic ratification on 3 August, and is expected to soon deposit its instrument of ratification at the United Nations in New York. Chile completed domestic ratification over a month ago but has not yet deposited. It has been several months since Tunisia completed its domestic ratification, but no information is available on when it will deposit.

* **By the end of 2010** ó At least 36 signatories have indicated that they should complete their ratification in the coming months and before the end of 2010 (by the 1MSP if possible): Afghanistan, Angola, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Italy, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Mozambique, Namibia, the Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, and Uganda.

* **Timeframe unknown** ó At least 15 signatories have informed the CMC that ratification is under way, but have not been able to provide an indication of when it will be completed: Australia, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Colombia, DR Congo, El Salvador, Guinea, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Palau and Peru.

* **No progress?** ó In about 17 states it is not known whether the ratification process has begun, or it has begun and has stalled: Congo (Republic of), Cook Islands, Dominican Republic, Gambia, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iraq, Madagascar, Mauritania, Monaco, Nauru, Nigeria, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Somalia and Togo.

LEGISLATION

Several signatories must pass legislation to implement the Convention on Cluster Munitions before they can ratify, including Australia, Canada, Iceland, the Netherlands, South Africa and Sweden. The CMC has a group of legal experts on hand who are available to provide swift, expert comment on draft legislation. If you need help, please email the group at: legislation@stopclustermunitions.org

Human Rights Watch (HRW) has a new report entitled "*Fulfilling the Ban*" that lays out the essential elements of strong national legislation needed to implement the Convention. The report was presented at the Santiago conference and can be downloaded here: <http://www.hrw.org/node/90721>

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2010

*** Preparatory Meeting, 6 September, Geneva, Switzerland**

There will be a Preparatory Meeting for the First Meeting of States Parties (1MSP) on 6 September in Geneva. All states have been invited to this meeting through an invitation note verbale that was sent to Geneva missions on 5 May 2010.

Contact: Thomas@stopclustermunitions.org

*** First Meeting of States Parties to the CCM, 9 - 12 November, Vientiane, Lao PDR**

A memo will be circulated to campaigners shortly which will include logistical details about the meeting.

For a list of who has signed and ratified the Convention on Cluster Munitions, please see: <http://www.stopclustermunitions.org/treatystatus/>

Please send in any updates or information on the status of accession and ratification in your country!!