A RESPONSE TO SYRIA

Expanding the Influence of the Convention on Cluster Munitions

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Power of Treaties

- Legally bind states parties
- Influence states not party and non-state actors
Steps for States Parties

- Condemn use of cluster munitions
- Comply with convention’s obligations
  - Reduces proliferation
  - Sets standards of conduct
- Strongly implement and interpret convention
Condemnation of Use

- Condemn *all* use of cluster munitions
  - *At any time*
  - *By any party*

- Stigmatizes weapon and strengthens political norm
Use in Eastern Ukraine

- Russia: Criticized “barbaric nature” of cluster munition attacks
- Ukraine: “It is savages who use cluster munitions against civilians.”
Means of Condemnation

- Public statements
  - Time of attack
  - Diplomatic meetings

- UN resolutions

- 6\textsuperscript{th} Meeting of States Parties
  - Interventions
  - Declaration
Compliance: Decrease Proliferation

Stockpile Destruction
Compliance: Inform Conduct of Parties outside Convention

- US: Ended transfers to Saudi Arabia
- Textron: Ended production

Failed Sensor Fuzed Weapons
Yemen 2015
Compliance: Set Standards
**Strong Implementation Legislation**

- Penal sanctions for violations of prohibitions
- Positive obligations, including for:
  - Victim assistance
  - Clearance
  - Stockpile destruction
- Breadth of coverage:
  - Explosive bomblets
  - Corporations and individuals
  - Extraterritorial jurisdiction
Legislation by the Numbers

- 27 states parties have adopted legislation
- 31 states claim existing legislation adequate
- More than 40 percent of states parties lack relevant legislation
Strong Interpretation

- Prohibit transit through national territory
- Prohibit hosting of foreign stockpiles
- Prohibit investment in production
- Prohibit assistance with use of cluster munitions, even in joint military operations
States parties should realize convention’s potential by
- Complying with own obligations
- Strengthening political and legal norms against cluster munitions
- Influencing actions of those outside the convention