

## **Cluster Munitions - Berlin Conference on Stockpile Destruction**

### **Statement by Ireland (Nicholas Twist) – 26 June 2009**

Thank you, Chair,

I join every other speaker in thanking Germany and Norway, and Vera Böhle, for the excellent organisation of this timely and important Conference.

Ireland is not a stockpiler of cluster munitions. It is reassuring and positive for us that most of those who do have stockpiles and are committed to this Convention are taking early steps to meet their commitments, even before the Convention enters into force.

For our part, the Irish Defence Forces have fulfilled all obligations under the CCM, including updating military manuals, instruction on training courses and issuing of briefing notes to all commanders overseas.

We welcome the offer of Lao PDR to host the first Meeting of States Parties and look forward to continuing our engagement in the Lao support group.

Last year, Ireland sponsored the UNGA resolution on the CCM. We look forward to working with Lao PDR on the terms of a draft Resolution for the forthcoming UNGA.

Thank you, Chair.