



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
**17 March 2009**

**CLUSTER BOMB BAN TREATY EVENT**  
**United Nations calls for countries to sign and ratify at special event in New York this week**

**WHAT: Special Event on Convention on Cluster Munitions**

Since the international treaty banning cluster munitions was opened for signature on 3 December 2008 in Oslo, Norway a total of 95 governments have signed including four that have also ratified. The 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions is now available for signature/ratification at the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs. On Wednesday 18 March, the United Nations is holding an event for countries interested in committing to the comprehensive ban on use, production, transfer and stockpiling of the weapon. More than two dozen states are expected to participate including several potential signers and ratifiers. The Cluster Munition Coalition (CMC), a network of over 300 non-governmental organizations from 80 countries, will speak at the meeting to encourage more countries to join the new treaty. **THIS IS AN IMPORTANT PHOTO AND PRINT OPPORTUNITY.**

**WHEN: Wednesday, 18 March 2009**

**12.00 (EST) - Daily Briefing, Office of the Spokesperson of the Secretary General**

The daily media briefing will reference the ban cluster munitions event.

**13:15–14.30 (EST) – Conference Room 3**

**Special Event: Convention on Cluster Munitions**

- Featuring statements by UN Deputy Secretary-General Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro; Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Deputy Director-General Jostein Leiro; Ambassador of Lao PDR to the UN Ms. Kamika Phommachan; Cluster Munition Coalition Coordinator Thomas Nash
- States signing the Convention on Cluster Munitions or depositing ratifications

**WHO:** Ambassadors and representatives from diplomatic missions to the United Nations; senior officials of the United Nations; civil society representatives from the Cluster Munition Coalition.

**WHERE:** **Conference Room 3, Secretariat Building, United Nations Headquarters, New York**

**MEDIA ACCREDITATION:** All journalists must be UN accredited to be allowed in the headquarters. Interviews with CMC representatives can be organized outside the premises.

**For more information, interview requests:**

**Jean-Marc Jacobs, CMC Media Officer:**

Tel: +44 (0)7515575174

Email: [jean-marc@stopclustermunitions.org](mailto:jean-marc@stopclustermunitions.org)

**For more information on CMC: [www.stopclustermunitions.org](http://www.stopclustermunitions.org)**

**To download high resolution images of cluster bombs and their impact go to:**  
**[www.flickr.com/photos/clustermunitioncoalition](http://www.flickr.com/photos/clustermunitioncoalition)**