

## **Common Declaration of parliamentarians present during the Dublin Diplomatic Conference on Cluster Munitions**

*Following the earlier parliamentary meetings in Oslo and Vienna we as parliamentarians urge governments present here in Dublin to negotiate the strongest possible treaty banning cluster munitions. This Convention will have a lasting impact and it is important that states participating here do not let the immediate, short term concerns of a small number of countries undermine this*

*For more than 40 years, cluster bombs have killed and wounded innocent people, overwhelmingly civilian,, causing untold suffering, loss and hardship for thousands in more than 30 countries. These weapons cause death and injury to civilians during attacks and for years afterwards because of the lethal contamination that they leave behind. Further to this they hamper post-conflict rebuilding and rehabilitation and the dangerous work of cluster bomb clearance causes further casualties and absorbs funds that could be spent on other urgent humanitarian needs.*

*Parliamentarians around the world have taken an active role in this process hearing the voice of civil society calling for the end of this humanitarian catastrophe raising the issue inside parliaments, questioning our governments on their policies, adopting resolutions and national laws to ban cluster munitions. Today, it is our role to follow up the adoption of the treaty and we will use all our capacities to ensure that national legislation is adopted and that the Convention is ratified in the shortest time possible and fully implemented.*

Michael Woods TD Chairman, Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs (Ireland)	Lord Dubs of Battersea Member of the House of Lords UK	Dirk van der Maelen Vice-president of the Foreign Affairs committee Vice-president of the Social Democrat Party (Belgium)
Dr. Marcelo Fuentes Presidente, Comisión Bicameral de Fiscalización de los Organismos y Actividades de inteligencia (Argentina)	Andreas Schieder Chairman of the Foreign Affair Committee (Austria)	Olle Thorell Member of the Social Democrats Committee on Foreign Affairs (Sweden)
Dr Beatrix Karl Member of the Austrian Parliament	Michael D. Higgins TD Labour Party President and Spokesperson on Foreign Affairs (Ireland)	Hon Dr. Raphael Chegeni Member of the Tanzanian Parliament
Hon Ibrahim Sorie Member of Parliament, Sierra Leone	Lord Elton, Deputy Speaker in the House of Lords, UK	Françoise Hostalier, Former Minister of Education, Member of the French National Assembly
Senator David Norris Independent, Member of the Irish Parliament		