



## STATEMENT

by Ambassador Petko Draganov

Permanent representative of the Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations and  
other International organizations in Geneva at the Conference of Disarmament  
Geneva, 14 February 2008

Mr. Chairman,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On previous occasions Bulgaria has expressed deep concern over the humanitarian consequences for the civilian population caused by the use of cluster munitions. In this respect, I am happy to inform that yesterday (February 13, 2008) the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria adopted a decision imposing a moratorium on the use of cluster munitions currently held by the Bulgarian Armed Forces until the entry into force of an international treaty on the use, production, transfer and stockpiling of cluster munitions that cause unacceptable harm to civilians.

Bulgaria is hopeful that other countries will follow in the same path and translate into practice their concern regarding the severe humanitarian impact caused by cluster munitions.

Bulgaria reiterates its position that the time is ripe for the international community to start negotiation on an international legally binding instrument on the use, production, transfer and stockpiling of cluster munitions that cause unacceptable harm to civilians.

Thank you!