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## AUSTRALIA WEAK ON CLUSTER BOMBS

This week in Geneva, Governments from around the world will meet to discuss the Convention on Cluster Munitions, a treaty designed to abolish the use of cluster munitions for all time. Delegates at this conference have the opportunity to openly and unequivocally declare their condemnation of all cluster bomb use, regardless of the perpetrator.

To our shame, in pre-conference talks, and in contradiction to the general will of governments present, Australia is attempting to water down the text of the conference declaration. It has declared its opposition to the use of language stronger than being “gravely concerned” about recent cluster bomb use. Cluster bombs are heinous weapons, leaving a legacy of death and mutilation for decades. As a State Party to the Convention, Australia has a responsibility to remain resolute in its opposition to any use of cluster bombs and must courageously take a public stance of condemnation.

**We call upon the Australian Government to openly state its condemnation of any cluster bomb use and to support the strongest possible conference declaration. Our reputation as a humane country and our moral obligations as a State Party demand no less.**

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