The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Representative of ... to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) which will enter into force on 1 August 2010.

Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Convention provides for regular meetings of the States Parties in order to consider and, where necessary, take decisions in respect of any matter with regard to the application or implementation of the Convention. Pursuant to Article 11, paragraph 2, the First Meeting of States Parties shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations within one year of entry into force of this Convention. In this regard, the Secretary-General has received a letter co-signed by the representatives of 26 States which have ratified, accepted, approved or acceded to the Convention, inviting him to convene the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention from 9 to 12 November 2010 in Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, with a preparatory meeting to be held at Geneva on 6 September 2010.

In this connection, the Secretary-General wishes to remind His/Her Excellency that the General Assembly of the United Nations, through its resolution 64/36, dated 2 December 2009, welcomed the offer of the Government of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic to host the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, and requested the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention.

Against this background and pursuant to Article 11, paragraph 2 of the Convention, as well as paragraph 2 of resolution 64/36 of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and the established practice, the Secretary-General has the honour to convene the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions from 9 to 12 November 2010 in Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, and to invite all States Parties to the Convention to participate in it. The Secretary-General also has the honour to invite States not parties to the Convention to participate in the First Meeting as Observers. The preparatory meeting for the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention will take place at Geneva on 6 September 2010.
The Secretary-General also wishes to remind that, in accordance with Article 14, paragraph 1, of the Convention, “the costs of the Meetings of States Parties […] shall be borne by the States parties and States not party to this Convention participating therein, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately”.

For any further information with regard to the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, the States are kindly requested to contact:

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T. C. H.