



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

**Afghanistan's update on the establishment of National Implementation
Measures
(Article 9 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Ottawa Treaty)**

**17th Meeting of States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban
Convention**

Geneva

26 – 30 November 2018

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to announce that the national law on the implementation of the 'Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention' and the 'Convention on Cluster Munitions', which had been developed based on the Article Nine of the above said conventions, has been endorsed by H.E. President Ashraf Ghani on 23rd of August 2018 and it is now enacted in Afghanistan. This new law is supplementing an already existing law banning the use, acquisition, trading and stockpiling of firearms, ammunitions and explosive items without the required legal license, and relates specifically to the provisions of the Antipersonnel Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

The development and enforcement of this national law strengthens Afghanistan's commitments to the Conventions. Moreover, it helps the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to implement these conventions in a coordinated and effective manner. In addition to prohibiting the impermissible use, acquisition, trade, investment, transportation and stockpiling of anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions, this law also regulates and clarifies the roles and responsibilities of various government relevant ministries, departments and operators in relation to the implementation of the said conventions.

The Directorate of Mine Action Coordination believes that enforcement of this law is a major achievement on its own, as well as a crucial step towards our main goal, a mine-free Afghanistan by 2023.

Thank you very much.