



Open-ended Working Group on Conventional Ammunition

Second Substantive Session

15 – 19 August 2022, Geneva

MAG Statement

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Thank you, Chair.

MAG is an international humanitarian organisation working in conflict prevention, response and recovery. MAG implements physical security and stockpile management, as well as capacity development activities across Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, Middle East and the Asia-Pacific region. Our engagement with the Open-Ended Working Group draws on our technical and political experience and expertise and is informed by the needs we see from States and affected communities on the ground.

MAG would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the many Member States who have supported the involvement of civil society in this process. In our statement during the first substantive session, we highlighted key considerations around the inclusion of ammunition safety, through-life ammunition management, the role of regional and sub-regional organisations, gender, and sustainable capacity development. We were greatly encouraged that these issues were included in your note on main takeaways.

The working paper on gender highlighted yesterday morning by the delegation from Panama is an important contribution to this ongoing discussion. MAG supports the recommendations included in the paper, and indeed is supporting the implementation of such measures in partnership with a number of States, UN agencies, and partners. We would like to highlight the importance of not only collecting and analysing disaggregated impact data, but also of actively using such data to inform intervention.

More broadly, we would like to continue to highlight the importance of approaches that are driven by the needs of people affected by conflict and armed violence. In this vein we also echo the comments made by a number of States on the context-specific nature of needs and necessity for tailored intervention.

On international cooperation and assistance, we would like to highlight the importance of well-coordinated support to ensure that available resources are used as efficiently and effectively as possible. To this end, we welcome the discussions coordinated by Switzerland and supported by the Ammunition Management Advisory Team. As an implementing partner to numerous states and regional organisations, MAG would like to highlight the continued importance of inclusive discussion that ensures momentum is maintained during the intersessional period.

Thank you, Chair.