

Thankyou for the opportunity to comment on the Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006.

I applaud the intent of the Bill, and the current definition of cluster weapons (or sub munitions), which, as outlined by submission 10 (by the ADF) would constrain the ADF from engaging directly or indirectly in unnecessarily inhumane activities.

I urge the adoption of the Bill, and suggested that the broadest interpretations indicated by the ADF are mentioned in any regulations or explanatory memoranda, so that Australia's international standing can be enhanced, rather than degraded by the odium of use or support of sub-munitions by ourselves or allies.

Further, I would like to add my voice in support of the submissions by the United Nations, the Uniting Church, the Red Cross and other humanitarian organizations (Submissions 1,2,4,5,6,7,8, and 9, especially where they are aligned with the efforts of the Norwegian government.

Thankyou for your consideration

David T. Bath