Mr Chairman

I would like to introduce proposal L.56, concerning the Convention on Cluster Munitions which is an administrative and procedural resolution only. This proposal is put forward by Ireland on behalf of a number of members of the Core Group of the Oslo Process.

As you are aware, the Dublin Diplomatic Conference adopted the Convention on Cluster Munitions on 30 May 2008. The Convention was negotiated within the Oslo Process, of which the Core Group members are Austria, the Holy See, Ireland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway and Peru. It will open for signature in Oslo on 3 December next.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is designated as the Depositary of this Convention and assigned a number of administrative tasks by the Convention. Article 14.3 provides that the performance by the Secretary-General of the United Nations of administrative tasks assigned to him or her under this Convention is subject to an appropriate United Nations mandate. The aim of L.56 is to provide this mandate with the sole operative paragraph reading that the General Assembly requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be necessary to fulfil the tasks entrusted to him by the Convention.

There are no budgetary implications to the proposal, with all costs incurred by the Secretary-General to be borne by the States Parties to the Convention in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately.

Mr Chairman

As I said at the outset, this is a technical and procedural resolution only and I hope that it will be possible for the Committee to adopt it by consensus.

Thank you.