

PERMANENT MISSION OF ISRAEL  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



המשלחת הקבועה  
של ישראל לאומות המאוחדות

א' אדר תשס"ט  
25 February 2009

Dear Mr. Goose,

Please find attached a letter from Ms. Rodica Radian-Gordon, Director of the Arms Control Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel, Jerusalem, responding to your letter of 30 January 2009 addressed to my Minister.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meirav Eilon Shahar'.

Meirav Eilon Shahar  
Counsellor

Mr. Stephen D. Goose  
Executive Director, Arms Division  
Human Rights Watch  
1630 Connecticut Ave. NW #500  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
Fax: (202) 612-4333

إسرائيل



ISRAEL



## האגף לעניינים אסטרטגיים

February 23, 2009

Mr. Stephen D. Goose  
Executive Director, Arms Division  
Human Rights Watch  
1630 Connecticut Ave. NW # 500  
Washington DC 20009, USA

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of 30 January 2009, addressed to H.E Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Ms. Tzipi Livni.

Israel welcomes and supports the ongoing negotiations held within the framework of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) aimed at urgently addressing the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions. In Israel's view, the CCW is the appropriate forum to negotiate such matters, one that has traditionally enjoyed the membership and expertise of relevant states. Israel has engaged actively in the CCW cluster munitions negotiations in order to contribute to the achievement of a successful and swift outcome.

One issue of particular interest and concern to Israel in these negotiations pertains to the prevention of cluster munitions transfers to terrorists. As a country that has suffered the repercussions of such illicit transfers, Israel submitted a text proposal aimed at expanding states' obligations in this area.

In light of the above, Israel is not in a position to support the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM). Israel shares the views of those states wishing to alleviate the humanitarian concerns that may be associated with the use of cluster munitions, and believes that this could be best achieved within the framework of the CCW.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rodica Radian-Gordon".

Rodica Radian-Gordon, PhD

Director, Arms Control Dep.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Jerusalem, Israel