



**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS NUOLATINĖ MISIJA JUNGTINĖSE TAUTOSE**  
**PERMANENT MISSION OF LITHUANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

2009-02-23 No. 09/ 286

Dear. Mr. Goose

I have the honour to forward you the copy of the letter by Mr. Žygmantas Pavilionis, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania, regarding the national policy and practice on cluster munitions and the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The original will be forwarded later.

Sincerely,

Ambassador

Dalius Čekuolis

Mr. Stephen D. Goose  
Executive Director, Arms Division,  
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**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS UŽSIENIO REIKALŲ MINISTERIJOS  
SEKRETORIUS**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA  
UNDERSECRETARY**

Vilnius, 19 February 2009

Dear Mr. Goose,

*Nr. 3-1171*

Let me thank you for your letter of 30 January 2009 addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs concerning the request of information from the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on state policy and practice regarding cluster munitions.

Lithuania was among the first countries that promoted initiative to ban cluster munitions and signed the Convention on Cluster Munitions on 3 December 2008 at the Signing Conference that was held in Oslo, Norway. For the moment being, Lithuanian national authorities are preparing relevant documentation for ratification. We expect that the Lithuanian Parliament, the Seimas, would be in a position to complete the ratification process in 2009.

Lithuania actively supported the adoption of the Convention on Cluster Munitions and participated in the Oslo process. At the same time, we are supportive of further continuation of negotiations in the margins of 1980 Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects. We also see a great merit in seeking coherence in addressing the problems caused by cluster munitions, landmines and explosive remnants of war. Coherence in cooperation of relevant stakeholders and in assistance for victims is of particular relevance.

Lithuania does not possess cluster munitions and has never produced, used, stockpiled or transferred such weapons in the past. Lithuania's relation with states not parties to the Convention would be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Article 21 of the Convention.

Looking forward to our continuing cooperation, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Žygimantas Pavilionis

Stephen D. Goose  
Executive Director,  
Arms Division, Human Rights Watch  
Washington D.C., USA

*Martynas Lukševičius*