



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA**

No. 494/R-ONU/218

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Arms Division, Human Rights Watch and, with reference to its Letter from January 30th, 2009, requesting information on Moldova's position on the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions, has the honour to communicate the following.

By its early engagement in the Oslo Process and by its signature of the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions, the Republic of Moldova has fully supported the international efforts to impose an effective ban on weapons that cause unacceptable harm to civil populations.

By signing the Convention, the Republic of Moldova has sent a clear message to the international community regarding its intention to become a State Party in the future.

The text of the Convention on Cluster Munitions is being currently examined by the appropriate authorities with a view to better understand its specific requirements. It is in this context that a national position on various interpretive matters relating to the Convention will emerge.

The Republic of Moldova has never produced, used, nor does it plan to use, stockpile or transfer cluster munitions. It inherited a limited stockpile from the former Soviet Union. As a result of recent CMC signing, the existing stockpile of cluster munitions is being reassessed by the relevant authorities. The amount of funds required for its future destruction is also a subject of this exercise. Consequently, the updated data on the size, composition and operational status of Moldova's stockpile, as well on other relevant issues will be presented at a latter stage.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Arms Division, Human Rights Watch, the assurances of its highest consideration. *S. L.*

Geneva, 2 March 2009



**HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH
ARMS DIVISION
Washington**