



REGERINGSKANSLIET

Stockholm, 26 March 2009

**Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Sweden**

*Department for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (NIS)
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Please find attached a letter from ambassador Lars-Erik Wingren. The original will be sent to you by regular mail.

Yours sincerely,

Katarina Hedstad
Secretary

Encl.

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24 March 2009

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 Stephen D. Goose
 Executive Director, Arms Division,
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Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)

Dear Mr. Goose,

Thank you for your letter of 30 January, addressed to Minister for Foreign Affairs Carl Bildt, which I have been asked to respond to.

Implementation of the CCM (Convention on Cluster Munitions) started on 3 December last year, when the Ministry of Defence sent a request to the Swedish Armed Forces to start planning for the phasing-out of the cluster munitions weapons system 'Bombkapsel 90 (BK 90)', in line with the requirements of the CCM. A time schedule and cost estimate for the dismantling of the system should be reported back to the Ministry of Defence not later than 1 September this year.

Sweden has never used or transferred cluster munitions as defined in the Convention.

Swedish ratification of the CCM requires the approval of the Riksdag (the Swedish Parliament). The procedure to follow will be similar to that for the Ottawa Convention. As a first step a study presenting the Convention and the necessary national implementation measures is needed. That work has now started. The study will be presented in the form of a report, which will be available to the public. Views on this study and its conclusions will be sought from government agencies, NGO:s and others particularly interested in the subject matter. A bill will then be presented to the Riksdag. In the case of the Ottawa Convention this procedure took about one and a half year, from signing

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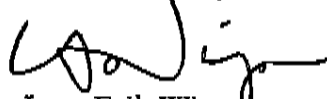
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to ratification. At this stage it is not possible to say how long time the procedure to prepare for the ratification of the CCM will take.

Regarding interpretative matters, we will wait for the above-mentioned study before any views can be expressed.

Yours sincerely,



Lars-Erik Wingren
Ambassador