

Procedure file

Basic information		
RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	2010/2772(RSP)	Procedure completed
Resolution on the entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) and the role of the EU		
Subject 6.10.03 Armaments control, non-proliferation nuclear weapons		

Key players	
European Parliament	

Key events			
07/07/2010	Debate in Parliament		
08/07/2010	Results of vote in Parliament		
08/07/2010	Decision by Parliament	T7-0285/2010	Summary
08/07/2010	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2010/2772(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Resolution on statement
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 132-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway					
Motion for a resolution		B7-0413/2010	07/07/2010	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B7-0429/2010	07/07/2010	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B7-0430/2010	07/07/2010	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B7-0431/2010	07/07/2010	EP	
Motion for a resolution		B7-0432/2010	07/07/2010	EP	
Joint motion for resolution		RC-B7-0413/2010	07/07/2010		
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T7-0285/2010	08/07/2010	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2010)6850	29/11/2010	EC	

Resolution on the entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) and the role of the EU

The European Parliament adopted by 558 votes to 30, with 24 abstentions a resolution on the entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) and the role of the EU.

The resolution had been tabled by the Greens/ALE, EPP, S&D, ALDE and GUE/NGL groups. It welcomes the forthcoming entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) on 1 August 2010, and calls on all EU Member States and candidate countries to sign and ratify the CCM as a matter of urgency before the end of 2010. This includes the non-signatory States Estonia, Finland, Greece, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Turkey and the States that have signed but not yet ratified the Convention, namely Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Portugal and Sweden. The signing and ratification of the CCM by all 27 EU Member States prior to its entry into force on 1 August 2010 would be a strong political signal in support of a world without cluster munitions and the EU's objectives with regard to the fight against the proliferation of weapons that kill indiscriminately.

Members ask the Council and Commission to include the ban on cluster munitions as a standard clause in agreements with third countries, alongside the standard clause on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and to make the fight against cluster munitions an integral part of Community external assistance programmes in order to support third countries in destroying stockpiles and providing humanitarian assistance.

Parliament urges all EU Member States that have signed the CCM to take every opportunity to encourage States not party to the CCM to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention as soon as possible, including through bilateral meetings, military-to-military dialogue and multilateral fora, and, in accordance with their obligations under Article 21 of the CCM, to make their best efforts to discourage States not party to the Convention from using cluster munitions. Furthermore, EU Member States are asked not to take any action that might circumvent or jeopardise the CCM and its provisions, and not to adopt, endorse or subsequently ratify any Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW) protocol allowing for the use of cluster munitions which would not be compatible with the prohibition of such munitions under Articles 1 and 2 of the CCM. The Council and EU Member States must act accordingly at the next CCW meeting from 30 August to 3 September 2010 in Geneva.

Parliament urges Member States to:

- take steps to begin to implement the Convention, including by destroying stockpiles, undertaking clearance and providing victim assistance, and to contribute to the provision of funding or various forms of assistance to other States wishing to implement the Convention;
- pass legislation to implement the Convention at national level;
- be transparent about the efforts they make in response to this resolution and to report publicly on their activities under the Convention;
- take steps to prevent third countries from providing cluster munitions to non-state actors.

Lastly, Parliament calls on the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to make every effort to secure the Union's accession to the CCM, which is possible following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, and, in addition, to develop a strategy for the first review conference in the form of a Council decision on a common position.