Draft Resolution: ‘Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium’

Drafted by the International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons (ICBUW)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/30 of 5 December 2007,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of humanitarian international law,

Determined to promote multilateralism as an essential means to carry forward negotiations on arms regulation and disarmament,

Convinced that as humankind is more aware of the need to take immediate measures to protect the environment, any event that could jeopardize such efforts requires urgent attention to implement the required measures,

Taking into consideration the potential harmful effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment,

Taking note of the Convention on Cluster Munitions of May 30 2008, highlighting the unacceptable suffering and harm to civilians caused by certain inhumane weapons of indiscriminate effect,

1. Welcomes the report prepared by the Secretary-General during the UN General Assembly’s 62nd session, highlighting serious health concerns over the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium;

2. Supports UNEP’s recommendations that the international community should assist local experts to carry out environmental field studies and other measures in order to protect local people from exposure to armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium;

3. Requests Member States to refrain from using armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium until studies to determine the effects of such armaments and ammunitions on human health and the environment are completed;

4. Calls on Member States to take the lead in working towards an international treaty, to establish a ban on the development, production, stockpiling, transfer, testing and use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium as well as the destruction of existing stocks, further including the consideration to provide assistance to the people in the areas where such weapons were used;

5. Requests the Secretary General to set up a group of governmental experts of equitable geographical distribution to further investigate the issue of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled “Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium”.