

FACT SHEET

November 2010

Cluster Munitions in Asia-Pacific

Convention on Cluster Munitions Status

States Parties	Signatories	States not party			
Fiji	Afghanistan	Bangladesh	Korea, North	Myanmar	Sri Lanka
Japan	Australia	Bhutan	Korea, South	Nepal	Thailand
Lao PDR	Cook Islands	Brunei	Malaysia	Niue	Timor-Leste
New Zealand	Indonesia	Cambodia	Maldives	Pakistan	Tonga
Samoa	Nauru	China	Marshall Islands	Papua New Guinea	Tuvalu
	Palau	India	Micronesia	Singapore	Vanuatu
	Philippines	Kiribati	Mongolia	Solomon Islands	Vietnam

As of 1 November 2010, there were five States Parties to the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions from the Asia-Pacific region. Another seven states had signed, but not yet ratified the convention. The 28 non-signatories from the region include six states that engaged in the Oslo Process and adopted the convention in Dublin in May 2008: Brunei-Darussalam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, and Vanuatu. In addition, the Marshall Islands, Nepal, and Niue subscribed to the February 2008 Wellington Declaration affirming their intent to conclude the negotiation of an instrument prohibiting cluster munitions that cause unacceptable harm to civilians.

Contamination and Clearance

As of 1 September 2010, 23 states and three other areas were believed to be contaminated with cluster munition remnants, including four states in the Asia-Pacific region.

States in the Asia-Pacific region contaminated by cluster munitions remnants: 4

States Parties	Signatories	States not party	
Lao PDR	Afghanistan	Cambodia	Vietnam

There is no reliable estimate of the total cluster munition contaminated area in Lao PDR, the only State Party in the region with known cluster munition contamination, but it is believed to be massive.

Under Article 4 of the convention, Lao PDR is obliged to clear all cluster munition contaminated areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible but not later than 1 August 2020. Afghanistan, currently a signatory, will have to clear contaminated areas not later than 10 years after becoming a State Party. The convention allows for extensions of the 10-year deadline, if approved by other States Parties.

Casualties

In 2009, 53 of the 100 casualties worldwide occurred in the Asia-Pacific region, and Lao PDR had the highest number of reported casualties of any country or disputed area in the world. All four states in the region with cluster munition contamination reported new casualties in 2009.

States in Asia-Pacific with reported casualties in 2009

State/area	Casualties	Convention status
Lao PDR	33	State Party
Cambodia	10	State not party
Vietnam	7	State not party
Afghanistan	3	Signatory
Total	53	

Risk Education

Risk education was provided in all four of the Asia-Pacific states with cluster munition contamination.

Use of Cluster Munitions

Over the past six decades 18 government armed forces have used cluster munitions in 39 states and areas. No states in Asia-Pacific are believed to have used cluster munitions. A non-state armed group (Northern Alliance) has used cluster munitions in Afghanistan.

The US used cluster munitions in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam. The USSR used cluster munitions in Afghanistan, as did the US in 2001–2002.

Production

A total of 34 states worldwide have produced over 200 types of cluster munitions. Six states in Asia-Pacific are believed to currently develop or produce cluster munitions: China, India, North Korea, South Korea, Pakistan, and Singapore.

Two Asia-Pacific states, Australia and Japan, developed or produced cluster munitions in the past, but, as they have joined the Convention on Cluster Munitions, have committed to the ban on production.

- **China:** China Northern Industries (NORINCO) produces a range of conventional air-dropped and surface-launched cluster munitions including bombs, artillery projectiles, and rockets. The Sichuan Aerospace Industry Corporation produces and markets 302mm (WS-1, WS-1B, and WS-1E) and 320mm (WS-2) unguided multiple-launch surface-to-surface artillery rockets. Among the warheads available for these rockets are “armor-defeating and killing double use cluster,” “comprehensive effect cluster,” and “sensor fused cluster.” Additionally, a number of China’s ballistic missile systems are reported to have warheads that contain conventional explosive submunitions, but few details are available.
- **India:** The India Ordnance Factories produces and advertises for export 130mm and 155mm artillery projectiles containing dual purpose improved conventional munition (DPICM) submunitions, which are equipped with a self-destruct feature. These projectiles are the result of a transfer of production technology from Israel Military Industries and are produced at Khamaria Ordnance Factory near Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh. In addition to artillery projectiles, the Defence Research and Development Organization of the Ministry of Defence produces a cargo rocket containing anti-tank/anti-material submunitions for the 214mm Pinaka multi-barrel rocket system. Other sources have claimed that warheads containing submunitions were developed for the Agni, Dhanush, and Prithvi missile systems.

- **North Korea:** Jane’s Information Group lists North Korea as producing and stockpiling submunition warheads for 122mm, 170mm, and 240mm rockets. Jane’s Information Group also cites the North Korean air force as possessing KMG-U dispensers (which deploy submunitions), RBK-500 cluster bombs, and unspecified types of anti-armor and anti-runway cluster bombs.
- **South Korea:** The Ministry of National Defense has said that “South Korea stopped production of old types of cluster munitions,” and “cluster munitions currently in production have a high level of reliability and most are equipped with [self-destruct] mechanisms.” In 2008 South Korea issued a directive requiring that in the future it only acquire cluster munitions with self-deactivation mechanisms and a 1% or lower failure rate.
 The US concluded a licensing agreement with South Korea in 2001 for production of DPICM submunitions for Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) rockets.
 Two companies in South Korea, Hanwha and Poongsan, produce cluster munitions.
- **Pakistan:** Pakistan Ordnance Factories (POF) produces and offers for export M483A1 155mm artillery projectiles containing 88 M42/M46 DPICM grenades. The South Korean company Poongsan entered into a licensed production agreement with POF in November 2004 to co-produce K-310 155mm extended-range DPICM projectiles in Pakistan at Wah Cantonment. The Pakistani army took delivery of the first production lots in April 2008.
 Jane’s Information Group reports that the Pakistan Air Weapons Center produces the Programmable Submunitions Dispenser (PSD-1), which is similar to the US Rockeye cluster bomb, and dispenses 225 anti-armor submunitions. Jane’s states that the Pakistan National Development Complex produces and markets the Hijara Top-Attack Submunitions Dispenser (TSD-1) cluster bomb.
- **Singapore:** According to Jane’s Information Group, Advanced Material Engineering Pte Ltd., a subsidiary of Singapore Technologies Engineering, produces 155mm DPICM artillery projectiles, each consisting of 64 bomblets and equipped with electro-mechanical self-destruct fuzes. The company also produces a 120mm mortar bomb which delivers 25 DPICM grenades.

Transfer

While the true scope of the global trade in cluster munitions is difficult to ascertain due to lack of official information, at least 15 countries have transferred more than 50 types of cluster munitions to at least 60 other countries. South Korea and China are the two Asia-Pacific states that are believed to have exported cluster munitions.

Singapore is one of the two non-signatory states (along with the US) to have enacted a cluster munition export moratorium.

Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor is not aware of any new transfers of cluster munitions in 2009 or the first half of 2010. However, Amnesty International obtained documents indicating an April 2009 shipment of inert components for 155mm K-130 cluster munition artillery projectiles from South Korea’s Poongsan Corporation to Pakistan Ordnance Factories’ Sanjwal plant. Another set of documents revealed a shipment in February 2010 of inert components for K-310 artillery shells from Poongsan Corporation to Pakistan. According to Amnesty, both shipments were transported by UK-flagged vessels.

While the full extent of Chinese exports of cluster munitions is not known, unexploded submunitions of Chinese origin have been found in Iraq, Israel, Lebanon, and Sudan. Hezbollah fired over 100 Chinese Type-81 122mm rockets with DPICM submunitions into northern Israel in 2006.

Seven Asia-Pacific states have received exports of cluster munitions from the US. The stockpiles of three Asia-Pacific states are thought to contain cluster munitions of Russian/Soviet origin.

States in the Asia-Pacific region engaging in transfer of cluster munitions: 10

State	Convention status	Export	Import
Australia	Signatory		From US
China	State not party	Recipients not known	
India	State not party		From US; munitions of Russian/Soviet origin
Indonesia	Signatory		From US
Japan	State Party		From US
North Korea	State not party		Munitions of Russian/Soviet origin
South Korea	State not party	To Pakistan	From US
Mongolia	State not party		Munitions of Russian/Soviet origin
Pakistan	State not party		From US
Thailand	State not party		From US

Note: Bold indicates in the past five years.

Stockpiling and Stockpile Destruction

Seventy-four states worldwide currently possess stockpiles of cluster munitions, including 11 of the 40 Asia-Pacific states.

States in Asia-Pacific with stockpiles of cluster munitions: 11

States Parties	Signatories	States not party		
Japan	Indonesia	Cambodia	North Korea	Pakistan
		China	South Korea	Singapore
		India	Mongolia	Thailand

Article 3 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions obliges States Parties to destroy cluster munition stockpiles as soon as possible but not later than eight years after entry into force of the convention for that state. Japan, the only State Party in the region with a stockpile, must destroy its stockpile by the deadline of 1 August 2018. Indonesia, currently a signatory, will have to destroy its stockpiles not later than 8 years after it ratifies and the convention enters into force.

A total of 12 former stockpilers worldwide have reported that they no longer possess stockpiles, including two signatories from the Asia-Pacific region: Australia and Afghanistan. The Ministry of Defense of Afghanistan has stated that approximately 113,196 items containing over 29,000kg of Soviet stocks of cluster munitions were destroyed. Australia reported that stocks were destroyed many years ago, prior to the negotiation of the convention.

Transparency Reporting

Under Article 7 of the Convention on Cluster Munitions States Parties are required to submit annual transparency reports. Initial transparency reports must be submitted by a State Party as

soon as possible, but not later than 180 days after the entry into force of the convention for that state. Thereafter, annual reports should be submitted by 30 April of each year.

Due dates of initial Article 7 reports for States Parties in Asia-Pacific

State Party	Initial Article 7 transparency report due
Fiji	30 April 2011
Japan	28 January 2011
Lao PDR	28 January 2011
New Zealand	28 January 2011
Samoa	30 March 2011

National Implementation Legislation

States Parties Japan and New Zealand are among the group of 10 states worldwide that have enacted legislation banning cluster munitions and/or implementing the Convention on Cluster Munitions. Signatory Australia has stated that it is in the process of developing legislation, and States Parties Lao PDR and Samoa have indicated that they intend to prepare legislation.

Status of cluster munition legislation in Asia-Pacific states that have joined the convention

State	Convention status	Legislation status
Afghanistan	Signatory	None
Australia	Signatory	Legislation in progress
Cook Islands	Signatory	None
Fiji	State Party	None
Indonesia	Signatory	None
Japan	State Party	Legislation enacted
Lao PDR	State Party	Intends to prepare legislation
Nauru	Signatory	None
New Zealand	State Party	Legislation enacted
Palau	Signatory	None
Philippines	Signatory	None
Samoa	State Party	Intends to prepare legislation