



Embassy of the
Federal Republic of Germany
Wellington

90-92 Hobson Street, Thorndon, Wellington 6011

Ms.
Mary Wareham
200 Oriental Parade
Wellington

Thomas H. Meister

Ambassador

Wellington, 5 December 2011

Dear Ms. Wareham,

I would like to thank you for your letter from 4 November 2011 and your active interest in the humanitarian causes related to cluster munitions.

The negotiations in the framework of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in Geneva have not led to a result. The Federal Government of Germany will continue its efforts to work towards prohibiting cluster munitions worldwide.

Those states that possess or continue to produce cluster munitions should take immediate steps to stop human suffering that would be caused by the use of these terrible munitions.

The German government has for many years made large sums available for humanitarian mine and ordnance clearance, including for the clearance of cluster munition. Since 1992 it has provided some 217 million Euro for such projects in 42 different countries. In 2011 alone the Federal Foreign Office has spent 15,96 million Euro on mine action projects in 24 countries.

Germany will increase its support for humanitarian de-mining and clearance of explosive remnants and cluster munitions from 15,8 million € to 18 mio €. The support for victims of cluster munitions will be a crucial part of this assistance.

Germany will continue to do what it can to work for the universalisation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions to achieve a total ban of cluster munitions as soon as possible.

With best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Meister', written in a cursive style.

Thomas Meister