

Africa and the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM)

Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor Fact Sheet

March 2010

- **Burkina Faso, Burundi, Malawi, Niger, Sierra Leone, and Zambia** have signed and ratified the CCM. African states made up 20% of the first 30 ratifications to trigger the entry into force of the CCM.
- **Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Libya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe** have yet to sign the CCM.
- **Mauritania, Morocco, Seychelles, Sudan, and Swaziland** adopted the CCM at the end of negotiations in Dublin, but have not yet signed.
- **Algeria, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Mauritania, Mauritius, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe** have signed the Mine Ban Treaty (MBT) but have yet to sign the CCM.
- **Egypt, Libya, and Morocco** have not signed either the MBT or the CCM.

	Has Signed	Has Ratified	Adopted But Has Not Signed	Has Stockpiled	Quantity of Stockpile	Has Produced	Has Used	Used In	State Party to the MBT
Algeria				Dispenser	unknown				✓
Angola	✓			Bomb, Dispenser	unknown			✓	✓
Benin	✓								✓
Botswana	✓								✓
Burkina Faso	✓	✓							✓
Burundi	✓	✓							✓
Cameroon	✓								✓
Cape Verde	✓								✓
Central African Rep.	✓								✓
Chad	✓							✓	✓
Comoros	✓								✓
Congo, DR	✓							✓	✓
Congo, Rep. of the	✓			Bomb					✓
Côte d'Ivoire	✓								✓
Djibouti									✓
Egypt				Bomb, Rocket, Projectile	unknown	✓*			✓
Equatorial Guinea									✓
Eritrea				Bomb	unknown		✓	✓	✓
Ethiopia				Bomb	unknown		✓	✓	✓
Gabon									✓
Gambia	✓								✓
Ghana	✓								✓
Guinea	✓			Rocket	unknown				✓
Guinea-Bissau	✓			Bomb	unknown				✓
Kenya	✓								✓
Lesotho	✓								✓
Liberia	✓								✓
Libya				Bomb, Dispenser	unknown		✓	✓	✓
Madagascar	✓								✓
Malawi	✓	✓							✓
Mali	✓								✓
Mauritania			✓					✓	✓
Mauritius									✓
Morocco			✓	Bomb	unknown		✓		✓
Mozambique	✓								✓
Namibia	✓								✓
Niger	✓	✓							✓
Nigeria	✓			Bomb	unknown		✓		✓
Rwanda	✓								✓
São Tomé e Príncipe	✓								✓
Senegal	✓								✓
Seychelles			✓						✓
Sierra Leone	✓	✓						✓	✓
Somalia	✓								✓
South Africa	✓			Bomb, Projectile	unknown	Past	✓		✓
Sudan			✓	Bomb, Dispenser	unknown		✓	✓	✓
Swaziland			✓						✓
Tanzania	✓								✓
Togo	✓								✓
Tunisia	✓								✓
Uganda	✓			Bomb	unknown			✓	✓
Zambia	✓	✓						✓	✓
Zimbabwe				Bomb**	unknown				✓

* The Helipolis Company for Chemical Industries has produced 122mm and 130mm artillery projectiles, which contain 18 and 28 M42D dual purpose submunitions respectively. The SAKR Factory for Developed Industries has developed and produced two types of 122mm surface-to-surface rockets: the SAKR-18 and SAKR-36, containing 72 and 98 M42D submunitions respectively. Egypt has exported cluster munitions in the past and is a significant recipient of exports of cluster munitions, primarily from the US.

** It is reported that Rhodesia (the predecessor of Zimbabwe) produced the Alpha bomblet developed for the South African CB-470 cluster bomb, and that Zimbabwe may have inherited a stockpile of the Alpha bomblet.

Use of Cluster Munitions in Africa

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	User	Used In
Angola		Deminers have found dud Soviet-made PTAB submunitions in various locations.
Chad		French aircraft dropped cluster bombs on a Libyan airfield at Wadi Doum, and Libyan forces also used AO-1SCh and PTAB-2.5 submunitions at various locations in 1986-1987.
Congo, Democratic Rep. of the		Deminers have found BL-755 bombs and dud submunitions in the villages of Kasu, Katelwa, and Est Agrico in Kabalo territory.
Eritrea	During the 1998-2000 conflict with Ethiopia, Eritrean cluster bombs hit the Ayder School and surrounding Ayder neighborhood in Mekele. Eritrea denied targeting the school or the neighborhood.	See use by Ethiopia.
Ethiopia	Ethiopia attacked the Asmara airport in 1998 with air-dropped cluster bombs. Ethiopia also dropped BL-755 bombs in Gash-Barka province of western Eritrea. A UN explosive ordnance disposal team in the area of Melhadega identified and destroyed a dud M20G DPICM submunition of Greek origin in October 2004.	See use by Eritrea.
Libya	Libyan forces used aerial cluster bombs, likely RBK bombs of Soviet/Russian origin, containing AO-1SCh and PTAB-2.5 submunitions at various locations during their intervention in Chad during the 1986-1987 conflict.	US Navy aircraft attacked Libyan ships using Mk-20 Rockeye cluster bombs in the Gulf of Sidra in March 1986. In April 1986, US Navy aircraft dropped 60 Rockeye bombs on Benina Airfield.
Mauritania		Cluster munition remnants, of the same types used by Morocco in Western Sahara, have been found in Mauritania, but it is unclear when the attacks took place.
Morocco	Moroccan forces used air-dropped and artillery-delivered cluster munitions against the Polisario Front in the disputed territory of Western Sahara at various points during their conflict from 1975-1988. Between 1980 and 1981, the Royal Moroccan Air Force conducted attacks on Akka, Guelta Zemmour, Hausa, and Messeid using French-made cluster bombs. In March 1982, the Royal Moroccan Air Force attacked the Bu-Crag area with US-supplied cluster bombs. Cluster munitions similar to the types used by Morocco in Western Sahara have also been found in Mauritania.	
Nigeria	Sierra Leone has said that Nigerian ECOMOG peacekeepers used cluster munitions in Sierra Leone in 1997. According to sources close to the Sierra Leonean military, in 1997, Nigerian forces operating as ECOMOG peacekeepers dropped two cluster bombs on Lokosama, near Port Loko. ECOMOG Force Commander General Victor Malu denied these reports.	
Sierra Leone		According to media reports, Nigerian ECOMOG peacekeepers used French-produced BLG-66 Beluga cluster bombs in an attack on the eastern town of Kenema in Sierra Leone in 1997.
South Africa	In January 2005, the South African Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that the "South African Defence Force has manufactured and used submunitions in the past..." No further details on past use of cluster munitions by South Africa are available. The South African company Denel produced artillery cluster munitions and air-dropped cluster bombs.	
Sudan	Government forces used air-dropped cluster munitions, including Chilean made PM-1 submunitions, between 1996 and 1999 in the southern part of the country.	
Uganda		Deminers in the northern district of Gulu have found RBK-250/275 bombs and AO-1SCh submunitions.
Zambia		Remnants of cluster munitions, including unexploded submunitions from air-dropped bombs, have been found at Chikumbi and Shang'ombo.