

James Madison University

JMU Scholarly Commons

Global CWD Repository

Center for International Stabilization and
Recovery

12-2009

9th Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (2008)

APMBC

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-globalcwd>



Part of the [Defense and Security Studies Commons](#), [Peace and Conflict Studies Commons](#), [Public Policy Commons](#), and the [Social Policy Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

APMBC, "9th Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (2008)" (2009). *Global CWD Repository*. 76.

<https://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-globalcwd/76>

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by the Center for International Stabilization and Recovery at JMU Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Global CWD Repository by an authorized administrator of JMU Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact dc_admin@jmu.edu.

Ninth Meeting

Geneva, 24 – 28 November 2008

Item 18 of the agenda

Consideration and adoption of the final document

FINAL REPORT

The Final Report of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction consists of two parts and six annexes as follows:

PART I. ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF THE NINTH MEETING

- A. Introduction
- B. Organization of the Meeting
- C. Participation in the Meeting
- D. Work of the Meeting
- E. Decisions and Recommendations
- F. Documentation
- G. Adoption of the Final Report and conclusion of the Meeting

**PART II. ACHIEVING THE AIMS OF THE NAIROBI ACTION PLAN:
THE GENEVA PROGRESS REPORT, 2007-2008**

Introduction

- I. Universalizing the Convention
- II. Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines
- III. Clearing mined areas
- IV. Assisting the victims
- V. Other matters essential for achieving the Convention's aims

Appendices

- I. States that have ratified or acceded to the Convention
- II. Deadlines for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines
- III. Deadlines for the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas
- IV. States Parties in the process of implementing Article 5 which have a deadline in 2010: Status with respect to the submission of extension requests
- V. Timelines for the Article 5 extensions process

- VI. Anti-personnel mines reported retained or transferred by the States Parties for reasons permitted under Article 3, and, a summary of additional information provided by these States Parties
- VII. The status of legal measures taken in accordance with Article 9

Annexes

- I. Agenda of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties
- II. Report on the process for the preparation, submission and consideration of requests for extensions to Article 5 deadlines, 2007-2008
- III. Ensuring the full implementation of Article 4
- IV. Applying all available methods to achieve the full, efficient and expedient implementation of the Article 5
- V. Report on the Functioning of the Implementation Support Unit, November 2007-November 2008
- VI. List of documents of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties

PART I

ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF THE NINTH MEETING

A. Introduction

1. The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction provides in Article 11, paragraphs 1 and 2, that: “The States Parties shall meet regularly in order to consider any matter with regard to the application or implementation of this Convention, including:

- (a) The operation and status of this Convention;
- (b) Matters arising from the reports submitted under the provisions of this Convention;
- (c) International cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6;
- (d) The development of technologies to clear anti-personnel mines;
- (e) Submissions of States Parties under Article 8; and
- (f) Decisions relating to submissions of States parties as provided for in Article 5; and,

Meetings subsequent to the First Meeting of the States Parties “shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations annually until the first Review Conference”.

2. At the 29 November–3 December 2004 First Review Conference, the States Parties agreed to hold annually, until the Second Review Conference, a Meeting of the States Parties which will regularly take place in the second half of the year, as contained in paragraph 32 (a) of its Final Report (APLC/CONF/2004/5). At the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties, held at the Dead Sea from 18 to 22 November 2007, it was agreed to hold the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties in Geneva from 24-28 November 2008, as contained in paragraph 31 of the Final Report (APLC/MSP.8/2007/6).

3. To prepare for the Ninth Meeting, in keeping with past practice, at the June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention a provisional agenda, provisional programme of work, draft rules of procedure and draft cost estimates were presented. Based upon discussions at that meeting, it was the sense of the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention that these documents were generally acceptable to the States Parties to be put before the Ninth Meeting for adoption.

4. To seek views on matters of substance, the President-Designate convened an informal meeting in Geneva on 3 September 2008 to which all States Parties and interested organizations were invited to participate.

5. The opening of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties was preceded on 24 November 2008 by a ceremony at which statements were delivered by the Minister of Foreign

Affairs of Switzerland, Ms. Micheline Calmy-Rey, the Vice President of the International Committee of the Red Cross and landmine survivor Ms. Song Kosal.

B. Organization of the Meeting

6. The Ninth Meeting of the States Parties was opened on 24 November 2008 by His Royal Highness Prince Mired Raad Al-Hussein of Jordan, President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties. His Royal Highness Prince Mired Raad Al-Hussein presided over the election of the President of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties. The Meeting elected by acclamation Mr. Jürg Streuli, Ambassador of Switzerland as its President in accordance with rule 5 of the rules of procedure.

7. At the opening session, a message was delivered by Mr. Sergei Ordzhonikidze, Director General of the United Nations Office in Geneva, on behalf of the Secretary General of the United Nations. In addition, a message was delivered by Ms. Sylvie Brigot, Executive Director of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines on behalf of Ms. Jody Williams, 1997 Nobel Peace Prize laureate. As well, a message was delivered by Dr. Cornelio Sommaruga, President of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining.

8. At its first plenary meeting on 24 November 2008, the Ninth Meeting adopted its agenda as contained in Annex I to this report. On the same occasion, the meeting adopted its rules of procedure as contained in document APLC/MSP.8/2007/5*, the estimated costs for convening the Ninth Meeting as contained in document APLC/MSP.9/2008/3, and its programme of work as contained in document APLC/MSP.9/2008/2.

9. Also at its first plenary meeting, Cambodia, Canada, Germany, Kenya, Lithuania, New Zealand, Peru and Serbia were elected by acclamation as Vice-Presidents of the Ninth Meeting.

10. The Meeting unanimously confirmed the nomination of Mr. Rémy Friedman of Switzerland as Secretary-General of the Meeting. The Meeting also took note of the appointment by the United Nations Secretary-General of Mr. Tim Caughley, Director of the Geneva Branch of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, as Executive Secretary of the Meeting, and the appointment by the President of Mr. Kerry Brinkert, Director of the Implementation Support Unit, as the President's Executive Coordinator.

C. Participation in the Meeting

11. The following 95 States Parties participated in the Meeting: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Montenegro, Mozambique, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau,

Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

12. The following signatories that have not ratified the Convention participated in the Meeting as observers, in accordance with Article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention and rule 1, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure of the Meeting: the Marshall Islands and Poland.

13. The following 20 States not parties to the Convention participated in the Meeting as observers, in accordance with Article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention and rule 1, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure of the Meeting: Armenia, Azerbaijan, China, Egypt, Finland, Georgia, India, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Micronesia, (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam.

14. In accordance with Article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention and rule 1, paragraphs 2 and 3, of the Rules of Procedure, the following international organizations and institutions, regional organizations, entities and non-governmental organizations attended the Meeting as observers: European Commission, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, League of Arab States (LAS), Organization of American States (OAS), Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), and United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

15. In accordance with Article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention and rule 1, paragraph 4, of the rules of procedure, the following other organizations attended the Meeting as observers: Association Internationale des Soldats de la Paix, Cleared Ground Demining, Cranfield University Resilience Centre, International Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF), James Madison University Mine Action Information Centre (JMU), Rotary Demining Operation Rodeo Foundation, and Swiss Foundation for Mine Action (FSD).

16. A list of all delegations and delegates to the Ninth Meeting is contained in document APLC/MSP.9/2008/INF.1.

D. Work of the Meeting

17. The Ninth Meeting of the States Parties held seven plenary sessions from 24-28 November 2008 and five informal sessions from 24-26 November 2008. The first one and a half plenary sessions featured the general exchange of views under agenda item 10. Several States

Parties, observer States and observer organizations made statements in the general exchange of views or otherwise made written statements of a general nature available.

18. At its first informal session, the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties presented his report on the process for the preparation, submission and consideration of requests for extensions to article 5 deadlines, as contained in document APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.35. Also during its informal sessions, the States Parties that had submitted requests for extensions in accordance with article 5.4 of the Convention, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Croatia, Denmark, Ecuador, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Yemen and Zimbabwe, presented their requests, the executive summaries of which are contained in documents APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.5, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.6, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.9, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.11, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.13, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.15, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.17, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.19, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.21, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.27 and Add.1, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.28, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.29, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.31, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.32 and APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.33. In addition, the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties presented an analysis of each request as contained in documents APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.7, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.8, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.10, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.12, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.14, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.16, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.18, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.20, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.22, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.23, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.24, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.25, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.26, APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.30 and APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.34. The Meeting expressed its appreciation for the efforts undertaken by requesting States Parties in preparing requests. The Meeting also expressed its appreciation for the work of the States Parties mandated to analyse these requests and, in particular, the group's chair, His Royal Highness Prince Mired Raad Al-Hussein of Jordan, President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties.

19. At its third through sixth plenary sessions, the Meeting considered the general status and operation of the Convention, reviewing progress made and challenges that remain in the pursuit of the Convention's aims and in the application of the Nairobi Action Plan 2005-2009. In this regard, the Meeting warmly welcomed the Geneva Progress Report 2007-2008, as contained in Part II of this report, as an important means to support the application of the **Nairobi Action Plan** by measuring progress made during the period 22 November 2007 to 28 November 2008 and highlighting priority areas of work for the States Parties, the Co-Chairs and the Convention's President in the period between the Ninth Meeting and the Second Review Conference.

20. In the course of considering the general status and operation of the Convention, the Meeting considered a proposal on ensuring the full implementation of Article 4, as contained in APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.36, and a proposal on applying all available methods to achieve full, efficient and expedient implementation of Article 5, as contained in APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.2.

21. At its sixth plenary session, the Meeting noted the Director of the GICHD's report on the activities of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU), contained in Annex V to this report. States Parties expressed their appreciation to the GICHD for the manner in which the ISU is making a positive contribution in support of the States Parties' efforts to implement the Convention.

22. Also at its sixth plenary session, the States Parties again recognized the value and importance of the Coordinating Committee in the effective functioning and implementation of the Convention and for operating in an open and transparent manner. In addition, the Meeting again noted the work undertaken by interested States Parties through the Sponsorship Programme, which continues to ensure widespread representation at meetings of the Convention.

23. Also at its sixth plenary session, the Meeting considered matters pertaining to reporting under Article 7 of the Convention. All States Parties were encouraged to place a continued emphasis on ensuring reports are submitted as required by forwarding reports to the Geneva Branch of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs.

24. At its seventh plenary session, the Meeting considered the submission of requests under Article 5 of the Convention.

25. Also at its seventh plenary session, the Meeting considered the submission of requests under Article 8 of the Convention. The President notified the Meeting that he had not been informed that any state wished to make such a request at the Ninth Meeting. The Meeting took note of this.

E. Decisions and Recommendations

26. At its final plenary session, taking into account the analyses presented by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties of the requests submitted under article 5 of the Convention and the requests themselves, the Meeting took the following decisions:

- (i) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina for an extension of Bosnia and Herzegovina's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 March 2019.
- (ii) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, even with a consistent and sizeable effort having been undertaken by Bosnia and Herzegovina going back even before entry into force of the Convention, Bosnia and Herzegovina faces a significant remaining challenge in order to fulfil its obligations under article 5. The Meeting further noted that, while the plan presented in Bosnia and Herzegovina's request is workable and ambitious, its success is contingent upon increased performance in technical survey, an ongoing, although decreasing, high level of donor funding and the initiation of and thereafter constantly increased funds provided by local governments. In addition, the Meeting noted the importance of clarity regarding which areas of what size and at what locations remain to be addressed in each administrative area.
- (iii) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Chad for an extension of Chad's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in

mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 January 2011.

- (iv) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, while it may be unfortunate that after almost ten years since entry into force a State Party is unable to account for what has been accomplished and what remains to be done, it is positive that such a State Party, as is the case of Chad, intends to take steps to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and to develop plans accordingly that precisely project the amount of time that will be required to complete Article 5 implementation. In this context, the Meeting noted the importance of Chad requesting only the period of time necessary to assess relevant facts and develop a meaningful forward looking plan based on these facts. The Meeting further noted that by requesting a 14 month extension, Chad was projecting that it would need approximately two years from the date of submission of its request to obtain clarity regarding the remaining challenge, produce a detailed plan and submit a second extension request.
- (v) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Croatia for an extension of Croatia's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 March 2019.
- (vi) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, even with a consistent and sizeable effort having been undertaken by Croatia going back even before entry into force of the Convention, Croatia faces a significant remaining challenge in order to fulfil its obligations under article 5. The Meeting further noted that, while the plan presented in Croatia's request is workable and ambitious, its success is contingent upon Croatia doubling its average annual contribution to demining and upon developing a methodology to address forested areas suspected to contain mines. The Meeting further noted that, the plans contained in the request were comprehensive and complete, although the Meeting also noted that additional clarity could result from defining some key terms and using them consistently.
- (vii) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Denmark for an extension of Denmark's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 January 2011.
- (viii) In granting the request, the Meeting, while noting that the delay in proceeding with implementation as soon as possible after entry into force hampered Denmark in fulfilling its obligations under article 5 of the Convention by its deadline, welcomed demining efforts conducted since 2005. The Meeting further noted that, while it may be unfortunate that after almost ten years since entry into force a State Party is unable to specify how remaining work will be carried out, it is positive that Denmark will, within the extension period of

22 months, garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and develop plans accordingly that precisely project the amount of time that will be required to complete article 5 implementation. In this context, the Meeting noted the importance of Denmark requesting only the period of time necessary to assess relevant facts and develop a meaningful forward looking plan based on these facts. The Meeting also noted that by requesting a 22 month extension, Denmark was projecting that it would need approximately two years from the date of submission of its request to obtain clarity regarding the remaining challenge, produce a detailed plan and submit a second extension request.

- (ix) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Ecuador for an extension of Ecuador's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 October 2017.
- (x) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, constant progress in demining had been made by Ecuador since 2002 and that the request indicated a commitment to continue at a constant rate through the extension period. The Meeting further noted that, while the plan presented is workable, the fact that the request indicates a 100%+ increase in financing and increases in demining capacity suggests that Ecuador may find itself in a situation wherein it could proceed with implementation faster than that suggested by the amount of time requested and that doing so could benefit both the Convention and Ecuador itself given the indication by Ecuador of the socio-economic benefits that will flow from demining.
- (xi) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Jordan for an extension of Jordan's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 May 2012.
- (xii) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, the plan presented in Jordan's request is workable and fully funded, although complete implementation was contingent upon resolving border demarcation issues. The Meeting further noted that while Jordan has made a significant effort to overcome many of the circumstance impeding implementation, additional clarity could result from providing more detail on spot-demining, areas pending verification, areas subject to desk studies and areas awaiting quality control.
- (xiii) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Mozambique for an extension of Mozambique's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 March 2014.
- (xiv) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that the plans contained in the request were comprehensive and complete, although it also noted that

additional clarity could result from eventually updating the national demining plan to cover the full extension period and include information on plans to deal with mined areas along Mozambique's border with Zimbabwe. The Meeting further noted that, while the plan presented in Mozambique's request is workable and ambitious, its success is contingent upon reversing a downward trend in donor support for Mozambique in order to increase demining capacity to the level needed to complete implementation by the end of the requested extension period.

- (xv) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Nicaragua for an extension of Nicaragua's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 May 2010.
- (xvi) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that the proposed one year extension seemed reasonable, although success in implementation is very much tied to securing donor support at a level that has historically been provided to Nicaragua. The Meeting further noted that, as stated by Nicaragua in its request, Nicaragua would be able to complete implementation by the end of 2009.
- (xvii) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Peru for an extension of Peru's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 March 2017.
- (xviii) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, after sporadic progress since entry into force, the request indicates a commitment on the part of Peru to proceed at a more constant rate through the extension period. The Meeting further noted that Peru, using all resources and techniques available, could be in a position to proceed with the implementation much faster than suggested and that this would benefit both the Convention and Peru itself given the indication by Peru of the socio-economic benefits that will flow from demining.
- (xix) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Senegal for an extension of Senegal's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 March 2016.
- (xx) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, while it may be unfortunate that after almost ten years since entry into force a State Party is only beginning to obtain clarity regarding the challenge it faces and has demined very little, in the case of Senegal there were some compelling circumstance that impeded any work from progressing until 2005 and it is encouraging that Senegal has used the process of preparing its extension request to signal that it is now acting with greater urgency, notwithstanding that Senegal was slow to

establish national structures following the 2004 cease-fire agreement and to make use of the findings of the Landmine Impact Survey which was completed in 2006. The Meeting further noted that Senegal does not yet have a clear knowledge of size and location of areas that will actually warrant mine clearance, its estimates for time and money required appear to be based solely on clearance assumptions, and the commitment made by Senegal to undertake technical survey activities and to develop a cancellation procedure may result in implementation that proceeds much faster than that suggested by the amount of time requested and in a more cost-effective manner.

- (xxi) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Thailand for an extension of Thailand's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 November 2018.
- (xxii) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that the proposed 9.5 years is ambitious and contingent upon maintaining a sizeable increase in State funds dedicated to implementation and obtaining external support at a level that is at least 10 times greater than Thailand's recent experience in acquiring such support. The Meeting further noted that significant progress was expected, through Thailand's "Locating Minefields Procedure", to overcome impeding circumstances such as the manner in which the Landmine Impact Survey in Thailand had hindered implementation efforts.
- (xxiii) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for an extension of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1. While a number of substantive concerns were raised, the meeting decided to grant the request for an extension until 1 March 2019, taking into account the following considerations:
 - (xxiv) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland reaffirmed its commitment to clear or ensure the clearance of all anti-personnel mines in all mined areas under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland clarified its understanding that the obligations under article 5 fell to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
 - (xxv) The Meeting further noted that, instead of undertaking the projected trial phase, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland reported that it will proceed immediately with the clearance of three mined areas, though the time-scale for completing this clearance has yet to be determined with certainty.

- (xxvi) The Meeting noted that although some humanitarian demining was undertaken immediately following the conflict, no demining had taken place to date since entry into force of the Convention. The Meeting noted that it is unfortunate that after almost ten years since entry into force a State Party is unable to specify how remaining work will be carried out and a timescale of the overall project.
- (xxvii) The Meeting took note of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland's confirmation that scenario 5 of the Field Survey which forms part of the Feasibility Study attached to the extension request serves as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Government's indicative Clearance Plan, containing clear priorities, timeframes for action and projected milestones for clearance over the period of the extension and as such formed a basis for future work. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland agreed to provide as soon as possible, but not later than 30 June 2010 a detailed explanation of how demining is proceeding and the implications for future demining in order to meet the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland's obligations in accordance with articles 5.4. b) and c) of the Convention, including the preparation and status of work conducted under national demining programs and financial and technical means available.
- (xxviii) The meeting noted that the Convention as a whole would benefit if the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in the context of reporting on the progress on destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5, provided clarity on a schedule for fulfilling its obligation under article 5.1 as soon as possible. The Meeting noted the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland's undertaking to provide, in addition to article 7 requirements, regular reports on the following elements: establishment of a National Mine Action Authority and other implementation bodies; establishment of the necessary regulatory framework; progress on contracts let and budgets made available; progress in clearance; Environmental, ecological and technical assessments undertaken.
- (xxix) The meeting took note that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland will keep under annual review the possibility of reducing the time necessary to fulfill its obligations. A number of States Parties expressed the wish that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland proceed with the implementation of article 5 much faster than suggested by the amount of time requested.
- (xxx) While granting this request, the Meeting noted the obligation of a State Party to include in its extension request a detailed explanation of the reasons for the proposed extension in accordance with articles 5.4.b) and c), such as status of work under a national demining program and financial and technical means available to the state party for the destruction of all anti-personnel mines. The Meeting also noted the importance of a State Party normally requesting only

the time period necessary to understand the true remaining extent of its challenge and develop plans accordingly that precisely project the amount of time that will be required to complete article 5 implementation

- (xxxii) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) for an extension of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 October 2014.
- (xxxiii) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, while no demining had taken place in Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) since entry into force, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) had nevertheless made a clear commitment through its extension request to start mine clearance operations and ultimately comply with its obligations by 1 October 2014. The Meeting also noted that, while impeding circumstances listed by Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) in its request would continue to exist during the extension period, with speedy establishment of a demining program and acquisition of mechanical demining assets, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) may find itself in a situation wherein it could complete implementation before October 2014 and that this could benefit the Convention.
- (xxxiv) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Yemen for an extension of Yemen's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 March 2015.
- (xxxv) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, the proposed extension seemed workable, although success in implementation is very much tied to securing donor support at a level that has historically been provided to Yemen and that, as stated by Yemen in its request, Yemen would be able to complete implementation by the end of 2014. The Meeting also noted the value of further clarity regarding the extent of Yemen's remaining challenge and on steps taken by Yemen to overcome the technical challenges that have posed as impeding circumstances in the past.
- (xxxvi) The Meeting assessed the request submitted by Zimbabwe for an extension of Zimbabwe's deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with article 5.1, agreeing unanimously to grant the request for an extension until 1 January 2011.
- (xxxvii) In granting the request, the Meeting noted that, while it may be unfortunate that after almost ten years since entry into force a State Party is unable to specify how much work remains and how it will be carried out, it is positive that such a State Party, as is the case of Zimbabwe, intends to take steps to garner an understanding of the true remaining extent of the challenge and to develop plans accordingly that precisely project the amount of time that will

be required to complete article 5 implementation. In this context, the Meeting noted the importance of Zimbabwe requesting only the period of time necessary to assess relevant facts and develop a meaningful forward looking plan based on these facts. The Meeting further noted that, by requesting a 22 month extension, Zimbabwe was projecting that it would need approximately two years from the date of submission of its request to obtain clarity regarding the remaining challenge, produce a detailed plan and submit a second extension request.

27. Also in the context of considering the submission of requests under article 5 of the Convention, the Meeting noted that many of the States Parties that had submitted requests for extensions had highlighted the importance of obtaining resources in order to implement the plans contained in their requests. The Meeting encouraged requesting States Parties, as relevant, to develop as soon as possible resource mobilisation strategies that take into account the need to reach out to a wide range of national and international funding sources. The Meeting furthermore encouraged all States Parties in a position to do so to honour their commitments to fulfilling their obligations under article 6.4 of the Convention to provide assistance for mine clearance and related activities.

28. Also in the context of considering the submission of requests under article 5 of the Convention, the Meeting noted that the accounting of the remaining mined areas contained in many extension requests would serve as a foundation for a resource mobilisation strategy and greatly assist both requesting States Parties and all others in assessing progress in implementation during the extension period. The Meeting encouraged those requesting States Parties that have not yet done so to provide an accounting of annual milestones of progress to be achieved during extension periods. The Meeting furthermore encouraged all States Parties whose requests had been considered by the Ninth Meeting to provide updates relative to their accounting of remaining mined areas and/or annual benchmarks for progress at meetings of the Standing Committees, at the Second Review Conference and at Meetings of the States Parties.

29. Also in the context of considering the submission of requests under article 5 of the Convention, the Meeting warmly welcomed the report presented by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on the process for the preparation, submission and consideration of requests for extensions to Article 5 deadlines, as contained in document APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.35, and agreed to encourage States Parties, as appropriate, to implement the recommendations contained therein.

30. At its final plenary session, with a view to giving due attention to cases of non-compliance with article 4 and to preventing future instances of non-compliance, the Meeting warmly welcomed the proposal submitted by Lithuania and Serbia on ensuring the full implementation of article 4, as contained in document APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.36, and agreed to encourage States Parties, as appropriate, to implement the recommendations contained therein.

31. At its final plenary session, in recognising the value of States Parties making use of the full range of emerging practical methods to more rapidly release, with a high level of confidence, areas suspected of containing anti-personnel mines, the Meeting warmly welcomed the proposal submitted by Norway on the full, effective and expedient implementation of article 5, as

contained in document APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.2, and agreed to encourage States Parties, as appropriate, to implement the recommendations contained therein.

32. At its final plenary session, pursuant to consultations undertaken by the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, the Meeting agreed to set the dates of the 2009 meetings of the Standing Committees from 25-29 May 2009 and identified the following States Parties as the Standing Committee Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs until the end of the Second Review Conference:

- (i) Mine Clearance, Mine-Risk Education and Mine-Action Technologies: Argentina and Australia (Co-Chairs); Greece and Nigeria (Co-Rapporteurs);
- (ii) Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration: Belgium and Thailand (Co-Chairs); Peru and Turkey (Co-Rapporteurs);
- (iii) Stockpile Destruction: Italy and Zambia (Co-Chairs); Bulgaria and Indonesia (Co-Rapporteurs);
- (iv) General Status and Operation of the Convention: Chile and Japan (Co-Chairs); Ecuador and Slovenia (Co-Rapporteurs).

33. Also at its final plenary session, the Meeting agreed to designate Ms. Susan Eckey, Ambassador of Norway, President of the Second Review Conference and decided to hold the Second Review Conference in Cartagena, Colombia the week of 30 November to 4 December 2009. The Meeting further decided to hold preparatory meetings in advance of the Second Review Conference in Geneva on 29 May 2009 and on 3-4 September 2009.

F. Documentation

34. A list of documents of the Ninth Meeting is contained in Annex VI to this report. These documents are available in all official languages through the United Nations Official Documents System (<http://documents.un.org>).

G. Adoption of the Final Report and conclusion of the Meeting

35. At its final plenary session, on 28 November 2008, the Meeting adopted its draft report, contained in document APLC/MSP.9/2008/CRP.1 as orally amended, which is being issued as document APLC/MSP.9/2008/4

PART II

ACHIEVING THE AIMS OF THE NAIROBI ACTION PLAN: THE GENEVA PROGRESS REPORT 2007-2008

INTRODUCTION

1. On 3 December 2004 at the First Review Conference of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (hereinafter “the Convention”) the States Parties adopted the **Nairobi Action Plan 2005-2009**. In doing so, the States Parties “reaffirmed their unqualified commitment to the full and effective promotion and implementation of the Convention,” and their determination “to secure the achievements to date, to sustain and strengthen the effectiveness of their cooperation under the Convention, and to spare no effort to meet (their) challenges ahead in universalizing the Convention, destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines, clearing mined areas and assisting victims.”¹

2. The **Nairobi Action Plan**, with its 70 specific action points, lays out a comprehensive framework for the period 2005-2009 for achieving major progress towards ending, for all people for all time, the suffering caused by anti-personnel mines. In doing so, it underscores the supremacy of the Convention and provides the States Parties with guidance in fulfilling their Convention obligations. To ensure the effectiveness of the **Nairobi Action Plan** as a means of guidance, the States Parties acknowledge the need to regularly monitor progress in the pursuit of the aims of the **Nairobi Action Plan** and to identify challenges that remain.

3. The purpose of the **Geneva Progress Report 2007-2008** is to support the application of the **Nairobi Action Plan** by measuring progress made during the period 22 November 2007 to 28 November 2008. While all 70 points in the **Nairobi Action Plan** remain equally important and should be acted upon, the **Geneva Progress Report** aims to highlight priority areas of work for the States Parties, the Co-Chairs and the Convention’s President in the period between the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties (9MSP) and the Second Review Conference. It is the fourth in a series of annual progress reports prepared by Presidents of Meetings of the States Parties in advance of the 2009 Second Review Conference.

I. UNIVERSALISING THE CONVENTION

4. At the close of the 18-22 November 2007 Eighth Meeting of the States Parties (8MSP), 156 States had deposited instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession and the Convention had entered into force for 153 of these States. Since that time, the Convention entered into force for **Kuwait** (on 1 January 2008), **Iraq** (on 1 February 2008) and **Palau** (on

¹ **Nairobi Action Plan**, Introduction (APLC/CONF/2004/5, Part III).

1 May 2008). The Convention has now entered into force for all 156 States that have ratified, accepted or approved the Convention or that have acceded to it. (See Appendix I)

5. At the 2 June 2008 Meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, **the Marshall Islands**, one of two States that signed the Convention but which has not ratified it, reaffirmed its support for global action on the landmine issue and its commitment to the general principles of the Convention. It indicated that it was not yet able to provide a timeline for the ratification of the Convention as it is currently reviewing all its treaty commitments with a view to clarifying national priorities. Also at the 2 June 2008 Meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, the **Lao People's Democratic Republic** indicated that its government is considering eventually joining the Convention but it still has some concerns about the implementation of Article 5. On 24 November 2008, **Finland** confirmed its intention to accede to the Convention in 2012. On 26 November 2008, the **Micronesia (Federated States of)** confirmed its intention to accede to the Convention, reporting that a draft resolution will go before Congress in January 2009 for approval.

6. The 8MSP placed a priority, in keeping with Action #3 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, on increasing universalisation efforts targeting those States not parties that continue to use, produce, or possess large stockpiles of anti-personnel mines, including those developing new kinds of anti-personnel mines. In this context, since the 8MSP, the President of the 8MSP visited **Finland, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Singapore** and the **United States of America** – States not parties that are presumed to hold large stocks of anti-personnel mines – to deliver the message that the world would be a better place if they joined the States Parties' common effort. With respect to States not parties developing new kinds of anti-personnel mines, it was announced that the armed forces of the **United States of America** would not acquire a victim-activated version of a newly developed anti-personnel force protection system.

7. Action # 4 of the Nairobi Action Plan encourages States Parties to accord particular importance to promoting adherence in regions where the level of acceptance of the Convention remains low, strengthening universalisation efforts in the Middle East and Asia. In this context it should be noted that Indonesia and Canada, with the support of Australia, and Malaysia convened regional workshops partially intended to promote further acceptance of the Convention in Asia. In addition, Palau, with support from Australia, convened a workshop intended to increase acceptance of the Convention in the northern Pacific. In addition, Canada conducted high level missions to the **Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal** and **Vietnam** to promote acceptance to the Convention.

8. On 23 June 2008 the European Union adopted a "Joint Action" that aims in part to promote the universalisation of the Convention. In addition, on 13 December 2007, the European Parliament passed a resolution marking the tenth anniversary of the Convention and urging all States to sign and ratify the Convention, underlining in particular the importance of the **China, India, Pakistan, Russian Federation** and the **United States of America** acceding to the Convention and also encouraging the two EU Member States (**Finland** and **Poland**) that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so before the Second Review Conference in 2009.

9. States Parties undertook a variety of efforts, in accordance with Action #6 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, to “actively promote adherence to the Convention in all relevant multilateral fora.” On 5 December 2007, 164 States, including 20 States not parties, expressed their support for the Convention in the United Nations General Assembly by voting in favour of the annual resolution on the implementation and universalisation of the Convention. On 3 June 2008, the Organization of American States’ General Assembly adopted a resolution urging its member States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to the Convention as soon as possible to ensure its full and effective implementation.

10. Pursuant to Action #8 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, the United Nations (UN), other institutions and regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and other non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians and interested citizens continued their involvement and active cooperation in universalisation efforts. Prominent examples included an appeal made by the United Nations Secretary General on 4 April 2008 for all States that have not yet done so to ratify all disarmament, humanitarian and human rights law instruments related to landmines, other explosive remnants of war and the survivors of the devastating effects of these devices. The United Nations Mine Action Team expressed a commitment to focus advocacy efforts on mine-affected States that are not parties to the Convention, particularly those receiving UN mine action support. In addition, the ICBL undertook visits to Morocco, Nepal, Oman, Poland and the United Arab Emirates to promote the Convention.

11. 39 States have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention. Among these are two States – the **Marshall Islands** and **Poland** – that signed the Convention but which have not yet ratified it. While “the desirability of attracting adherence of all States to this Convention”² remains a matter of emphasis for the States Parties, these two signatory States remain of special interest with respect to universalization.

12. Also among the 39 States that have not expressed their consent to be bound by the Convention are some that produce, use, transfer and / or maintain large stockpiles of anti-personnel mines. According to the ICBL, 2 States not parties – **Myanmar** and the **Russian Federation** – made new use of anti-personnel mines since the 8MSP.

13. According to the ICBL, armed non-State actors in 7 States (Afghanistan, Colombia, India, Iraq, Myanmar, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) made new use of anti-personnel mines since the 8MSP.

14. States Parties and other actors continued to advocate for the end of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines by armed non-State actors. Several States Parties and the UN expressed their support and/or made financial commitments to the Geneva Call for its work to engage armed non-State actors and promote their adherence to the Convention’s norms. The Geneva Call obtained a further signing of its “Deed of Commitment for Adherence to a Total Ban on Anti Personnel Mines and for Cooperation in Mine Action” since the 8MSP. States Parties remained of the view that, when engagement by non-governmental organizations of armed non-State actors is considered, vigilance is required to prevent those organizations

² Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. Preamble.

which carry out terrorist acts, or promote them, from exploiting the Ottawa Process for their own goals. With respect to one previous signing, one State Party again noted with concern that the Geneva Call proceeded in a manner not consistent with paragraph 17 of the Zagreb Progress Report³, which states:

“Also in this context, as rights and obligations enshrined in the Convention and commitments in the **Nairobi Action Plan** apply to States Parties, some States Parties are of the view that when engagement with armed non-state actors is contemplated, States Parties concerned should be informed, and their consent would be necessary in order for such an engagement to take place.”

15. Since the 8MSP, the Philippines Campaign to Ban Landmines launched the “Rebel Group Declaration of Adherence to International Humanitarian Law on Landmines.”

Priorities for the period leading to the Second Review Conference

16. Given that no additional States ratified or acceded to the Convention since the 8MSP, there is even greater need for the States Parties to turn their commitment to universalisation into action in accordance with Actions #1 to #8 of the **Nairobi Action Plan** prior to the Second Review Conference, in particular by placing a priority on the following:

- (i) **All States Parties should direct specific efforts towards encouraging quick progress by those States not parties which have indicated that they could ratify or accede to the Convention in the near-term. As discussed by the Universalisation Contact Group, these include: Bahrain, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Nepal, Oman, Poland, Tonga, Tuvalu and United Arab Emirates.**
- (ii) **In keeping with Action #3 of the Nairobi Action Plan, all States Parties and those that share their aims should continue to increase universalisation efforts that place a priority on those States not parties that produce, use, transfer and maintain large stockpiles of anti-personnel mines, including those developing new kinds of anti-personnel mines.**
- (iii) **Further to Actions #5 and #6 of the Nairobi Action Plan, States Parties should continue to use bilateral, regional and multilateral meetings and events to promote the Convention including in the United Nations General Assembly and its committees.**
- (iv) **All States Parties should take advantage of the Second Review Conference to elevate in 2009 to a high political level the matter of promoting universal acceptance of the Convention, including by seeking to ensure that their heads of state and government and ministers of foreign affairs and defence engage**

³ APLC/MSP.6/2005/5, Part II, 3 April 2006.

their counterparts from States not parties in promoting ratification or accession.

II. DESTROYING STOCKPILED ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES

17. At the close of the 8MSP, it was recorded that the obligation to destroy or ensure the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines contained in Article 4 of the Convention was still relevant for eight States Parties. Since that time, five States Parties have had deadlines for fulfilling Article 4 obligations. Two of these States Parties, **Burundi** and **Sudan**, reported that they completed the destruction of their stockpiled anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 4. Three of these States Parties, **Belarus**, **Greece** and **Turkey**, reported that they had not yet complied with their Article 4 obligations by their respective deadlines.

18. **Indonesia** and **Kuwait** submitted initial transparency reports confirming or indicating that they possess stockpiled anti-personnel mines they must destroy. On 26 November 2008 **Indonesia** indicated that it had completed the destruction of its stockpiled anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 4. **Iraq** submitted an initial transparency report to confirm no stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it or under its jurisdiction or control. However **Iraq** indicated that the matter will be further investigated and if stockpiled anti-personnel mines are identified, they will be reported and appropriate plans will be developed for their destruction. **Palau** submitted an initial transparency report to confirm no stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it or under its jurisdiction or control. **Ethiopia** indicated that approximately 60 per cent of its stockpiled anti-personnel mines have been destroyed and that, with the exception of a small quantity retained for training, the remaining stocks will be destroyed by its deadline. Hence the obligation to destroy stockpiled anti-personnel mines remains relevant for six States Parties: **Belarus**, **Ethiopia**, **Greece**, **Kuwait**, **Turkey** and **Ukraine**. Timelines for States Parties to complete stockpile destruction in accordance with Article 4 are in Appendix II.

19. Three States Parties, **Equatorial Guinea**, **Gambia** and **Haiti**, that are assumed to not possess stockpiled anti-personnel mines, remain overdue in submitting an initial transparency report. As well, one State Party, **Cape Verde**, for which information emerged prior to the 8MSP indicating that it indeed held stocks and that these have been destroyed, is overdue in providing an initial transparency report to clarify the types and quantities of mines destroyed after entry into force.

20. **Tajikistan** reported that it had either transferred for destruction or had destroyed over 49,000 previously unknown stockpiled anti-personnel mines. **Niger** reported that 5,000 anti-personnel mines were seized in the context of a weapon collection programme and that all of them were destroyed in situ.

21. 150 States that have ratified or acceded to the Convention now no longer hold stocks of anti-personnel mines, either because they never did or because they have completed their destruction programmes. Together the States Parties have reported the destruction of more than 41 million stockpiled mines.

22. In the **8MSP's Dead Sea Progress Report 2006-2007**, it was noted that while the number of States Parties which must fulfil Article 4 obligations is small, serious challenges remain. At the 2 June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction, it was noted that these challenges are even more profound than initially anticipated and expressed at the 8MSP. In particular, the failure by **Belarus, Greece and Turkey**, which together have almost eight million stockpiled anti-personnel mines, to comply with the obligations contained in Article 4 by their deadlines represents a matter of serious concern. Discussions were held in the context of the meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction on how to address such concerns about compliance and on how to prevent additional instances of non-compliance, including on the basis of a paper presented to the Standing Committee by its Co-Chairs.

23. The updates on progress achieved provided by **Belarus, Greece and Turkey** at the 2 June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction were welcomed but some States Parties expressed serious concern regarding these three cases of non-compliance and called on these three States Parties to rectify the situation as soon as possible. Subsequent to the 2 June 2008 meeting, Greece communicated to the 8MSP President that it would complete the destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines no later than 28 May 2009. Belarus and Turkey did not provide timelines for the completion of their stockpile destruction. Belarus, Greece and Turkey were encouraged to do their utmost to fulfil their obligations under Article 4 as soon as possible and respect the commitment they made when they acceded to the Convention.

24. On 18 February 2008 **Belarus** informed States Parties that it had completed the destruction of its non-PFM type stockpiled anti-personnel mines and that, due to the failure of a cooperation and assistance programme with the European Commission, Belarus would be unable to destroy its PFM type anti-personnel mines by its 1 March 2008 deadline. Belarus indicated that both it and the European Commission remained committed to continue cooperation with the goal of destroying all PFM type mines in Belarus. Belarus further noted that, on 22 January, 2008, Belarus and the European Commission signed a financing agreement aimed at realising this goal. At the 2 June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction, Belarus repeated this information. Further to that meeting, Belarus reported that both it and the European Commission were in the process of negotiating terms of reference to define responsibilities and the timeframes for destruction.

25. Also at the 2 June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction, **Greece** indicated that complex and time consuming procedures in coordinating and implementing the stockpile destruction efforts as well as changes in the national legislation were the reasons for which it had not been able to fulfil its obligations within the four-year deadline. Greece further reported that the draft contract between the Greek Ministry of Defence and the private company chosen to carry out the destruction project was still undergoing audit and legal review. However, Greece indicated that the stockpiled anti-personnel mines have been assembled in a number of sites to facilitate their collection and transport and necessary financial resources have been earmarked for the project.

26. On 28 February 2008, **Turkey** informed all States Parties that it was continuing to pursue the destruction process with utmost care and the Turkish Munitions Disposal Facility was operating at maximum capacity. On 23 May 2008, Turkey organised a briefing on and field trip

to its disposal facility, which featured the participation of the ICBL, the ICRC and the Implementation Support Unit. At the 2 June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction, Turkey reported that although the fuses of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines were removed and destroyed, the destruction process could not be completed by the deadline. Turkey indicated that it was unable to give an accurate time-frame for the completion of the process as its disposal facility operates under environmental scrutiny, with a recycling methodology that requires time and with a growth in daily destruction capacity still unknown. On 7 October, Turkey organised a briefing on and field trip to its disposal facility for the 8MSP President.

27. **Ukraine** reported that following the collapse of assistance arrangements with the European Commission to destroy all remaining stockpiled PFM type mines, it had the resources and capacity to destroy only half the remaining stockpile by its deadline. Ukraine further reported that taking into account the destruction productivity of the Pavlograd Chemical Plant, which does not exceed 1.8-2 million mines per year, if further delay with international assistance was to be experienced, Ukraine might not be in a position to fulfil its Article 4 obligations by its deadline.

28. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction, in keeping with Actions #14 and #16 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, gave special attention to the challenges to comply with Article 4 obligations on the part of those States Parties that must destroy vast quantities of Soviet-era PFM mines. They did so in part by convening on 11 April 2008 informal closed consultations with representatives of the States Parties concerned, with the participation of interested donors, experts and relevant intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations. This initiative was welcomed by all participants and its conclusions were presented to the 2 June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction.

29. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction continued to highlight the importance of applying Action #15 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, which states that “all States Parties will, when previously unknown stockpiles are discovered after stockpile destruction deadlines have passed, report such discoveries in accordance with their obligations under Article 7, take advantage of other informal means to share such information and destroy these mines as a matter of urgent priority.” It was recalled that the 8MSP adopted amendments to the Article 7 reporting format to facilitate reporting on this matter.

Priorities for the period leading to the Second Review Conference

30. While the list remains short in terms of the number of States Parties for which Article 4 remains relevant, the outstanding challenges relating to implementation are more profound than ever before. All States Parties must act to comply with their deadlines, placing a priority in the period leading to the Second Review Conference on the following:

- (i) **States Parties that failed to comply with their Article 4 obligations by their deadlines should act in a committed and transparent way, immediately communicating, preferably in the form of a note verbale addressed to all States Parties, the reasons, which should be extraordinary, for failing to comply and providing a plan to ensure compliance as soon as possible,**

including an expected completion date. They should commit national resources to fulfil their obligations and, if relevant, actively pursue assistance.

- (ii) **In order to prevent future instances of non-compliance with Article 4 obligations, States Parties in the process of implementing Article 4 should communicate to other States Parties, including through annual transparency reports, at every meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction and at every Meeting of the States Parties or Review Conference, plans to implement Article 4, successively reporting progress that is being made towards the fulfilment of Article 4 obligations, including the number of mines destroyed. If necessary, the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction should hold, well in advance of deadlines, informal consultations with concerned States Parties, donors and relevant experts.**
- (iii) **States Parties should use a variety of means to encourage and facilitate, where appropriate, the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines by States Parties concerned, including by engaging States Parties that must implement Article 4 in a dialogue if, one year after entry into force, such States Parties do not have plans to implement Article 4 by their deadlines and if, two years after entry into force, no progress in the destruction of stockpiled mines has been reported.**
- (iv) **The State Party with a deadline for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines that occurs prior to the Second Review Conference should, in accordance with its Convention obligations and as emphasized in Action #11 of the Nairobi Action Plan, ensure that it communicates as soon as possible the amount of stockpiles still to be destroyed and completes its destruction programme on time. Others with deadlines that occur following the Second Review Conference should aim to comply as soon as possible but no later than their four year deadlines.**
- (v) **States Parties in a position to do so should, in accordance with their Convention obligations and as emphasized in Action #13 of the Nairobi Action Plan, promptly assist States Parties with clearly demonstrated needs for external support for stockpile destruction, responding promptly to appeals for assistance by States Parties in danger of not meeting deadlines under Article 4.**
- (vi) **States Parties should continue to report previously unknown stockpiles discovered after stockpile destruction deadlines have passed in accordance with their obligations under Article 7, and may make use of the means adopted at the 8MSP to facilitate such reporting and taking advantage of other informal means to share such information. They should destroy these mines as a matter of urgent priority.**

III. CLEARING MINED AREAS

31. At the close of the 8MSP, it was reported that the obligation contained in Article 5 of the Convention, to destroy or ensure the destruction of all emplaced anti-personnel mines remained relevant for 44 States Parties. Since then, **France** and **Malawi** reported that they have completed implementation of Article 5 and **Niger** indicated that the presence of anti-personnel mines was no longer suspected on its territory. In addition, **Iraq** submitted an initial transparency report confirming areas under its jurisdiction or control which are dangerous due to the presence or suspected presence of anti-personnel mines. Hence the obligation to destroy or ensure the destruction of all emplaced anti-personnel mines remains relevant for the following 42 States Parties: **Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Greece, Guinea Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe**. Timelines for these States Parties to destroy or ensure the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas in accordance with Article 5 are contained in Appendix III.

32. Of the remaining 16 States Parties with deadlines in 2009, one State Party (**Uganda**) indicated that it plans to complete implementation by its 2009 deadline, and, the following 15 States Parties submitted, pursuant to Article 5.3 and the process adopted by the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties (7MSP), requests for extensions of deadlines for completing the destruction of emplaced anti-personnel mines in accordance with Article 5.1: **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (10 years requested); **Chad** (16 months requested); **Croatia** (10 years requested); **Denmark** (22 months requested); **Ecuador** (8 years requested); **Jordan** (3 years requested); **Mozambique** (5 years requested); **Nicaragua** (1 year requested); **Peru** (8 years requested); **Senegal** (7 years requested); **Thailand** (9.5 years requested); the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** (10 years requested); **Venezuela** (5 years requested); **Yemen** (5.5 years requested); and, **Zimbabwe** (22 months requested).

33. Since the 8MSP, the process adopted at the 7MSP of preparing, submitting and analysing requests for extensions came to life and started being implemented for the first time. Pursuant to the decision to “encourage States Parties seeking Article 5 extensions to submit their request to the President no fewer than nine months before the Meeting of the States Parties (...) at which the decision on the request would be taken,” the 8MSP President wrote on 8 February 2008 to States Parties with deadlines in 2009 to encourage requests to be submitted in March 2008. In addition, pursuant to the agreement “that requesting States Parties are encouraged, as necessary, to seek assistance from the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) in the preparation of their requests”, the President encouraged the use of the advisory services of the ISU in the preparation of requests. Many of the requesting States Parties made use of the services provided by the ISU.

34. Pursuant to the 7MSP agreement that the President and the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs of the Standing Committees would jointly prepare analyses of the requests submitted, the States Parties mandated to prepare these analyses met for the first time on 11 March 2008 and several times thereafter. In keeping with the Convention’s practice of

transparency, all States Parties were notified of the working methods agreed to by the States Parties mandated to prepare analyses and chair's summaries of meetings were made available on the Convention's website. In addition, in accordance with the decisions of the 7MSP, the States Parties were notified by the 8MSP President of the receipt of requests and all requests were made openly available on the Convention's website.

35. In accordance with the 7MSP decision "that in preparing the analysis, the President, Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs, in close consultation with the requesting State, should where appropriate, draw on expert mine clearance, legal and diplomatic advice, using the ISU to provide support," expert advice was sought from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), the ICBL, the ICRC, the Coordinator of the Resource Utilization Contact Group and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to assist the States Parties mandated to prepare analyses.

36. The chair of the group of States Parties mandated to prepare analyses (i.e., the 8MSP President) emphasised the importance of working in close collaboration with requesting States Parties and that the analysis process should be a cooperative one. The analysis process led in many instances to improved requests being produced and submitted.

37. It was observed that the States Parties were well served by applying the decisions of the 7MSP in a practical minded manner that is consistent with the working culture of the Convention. It was noted that they were greatly aided by the calendar established pursuant to the decisions of the 7MSP which saw, for example, that in 2008 requests were submitted well in advance of the 9MSP by only those States Parties with deadlines in 2009. It was further noted that many requesting States Parties applied in a practical minded way the voluntary template for assisting States Parties in requesting extensions.

38. It was further observed that the process of analysing requests was extremely challenging in 2008 in part because it was the first year of use of the process and in part because of the volume of requests received. It was noted that these challenges were compounded by late requests and by requests that lacked clarity and contained data discrepancies. It was further noted that the commitment required on the part of States Parties mandated to prepare analyses may have been too great for many, that participation in the analysis process was mixed and that the work load associated with this task should be taken into account by States Parties considering proposing that they serve as Co-Rapporteurs / Co-Chairs.

39. It was further observed that many States Parties seeking an extension under Article 5 seized the opportunity presented by the extension process to provide the most comprehensive information on all aspects of implementation of Article 5 in their country since the entry-into force of the Convention. In addition, it was noted that some States Parties seized the opportunity presented through an extension request to reinvigorate interest in national demining plans, in large part by demonstrating national ownership and that implementation is possible in a relatively short period of time.

40. During the June 2008 meetings of the Standing Committees, Co-Chairs reminded States Parties that the extension request provision should not distract them from the urgent need to comply with Article 5 obligation. Some States Parties expressed the view that that the number of

requests was inconsistent with the obligation under the Convention to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas as soon as possible. Others expressed that States Parties requesting extensions should present a realistic plans for extension period. As well, some States Parties shared the view that each request is analysed on its own merits taking into account the characteristics and conditions particular to each request State Party.

41. All States Parties in the process of fulfilling Article 5 obligations were encouraged to provide information on the status of implementation, especially with respect to the development of national plans consistent with Convention obligations, progress achieved, work remaining and circumstances that may impede the fulfilment of Article 5 obligations in the 10-year period. Once again, the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies attempted to guide States Parties in the preparation of their updates for the 4-5 June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies by encouraging them to use questionnaires they had prepared. 38 States Parties took advantage of this opportunity and prepared presentations on the matters highlighted in the questionnaires. However, the quality of the information reported by the States Parties varied considerably. While all States Parties provided detailed reports of past progress, few indicated very clearly the extent of the remaining challenge and their plans to achieve the full implementation of Article 5 within their respective deadlines.

42. In 2008, significant progress in implementing Article 5 was reported by many States Parties, with progress achieved by many by applying the full range of methods in addition to clearance to release areas previously suspected to contain anti-personnel mines. **Albania** reported that it has cleared about 90 percent of all contaminated land and plans to release another five percent by the end of 2008. **Algeria** reported that the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas is ongoing and that it has commenced with undertaking a landmine impact survey (LIS). **Angola** reported that since the completion of its LIS in 2007, it has released 85 square kilometers of land. **Bosnia and Herzegovina** reported that in the first quarter of 2008, 3 million square meters of had been released through technical survey and mine clearance operations, 28 million square meters through general survey and 19 million square meters through other systematic survey operations. **Burundi** reported that of a total of 238 suspected mined areas, 99.1 % have been cleared. Burundi further reported that at the beginning of November 2008 following a survey, 58 new areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines were discovered. **Chile** reported that as of 30 April 2008, 24 minefields have been cleared and 17,770 anti-personnel mines and 6,307 anti-tank mines destroyed. **Colombia** reported that it has cleared 7 of 34 military bases as well as 2 areas identified through population reports, resulting in the release of 46,606 square meters and the destruction of 1,093 anti-personnel mines and 775 UXO. **Croatia** reported that of the 997 square kilometres of suspected mined area as of 1 January 2008, 12.5 square kilometres had been cleared in the first 5 months of 2008 and returned to local communities.

43. **Cyprus** reported the destruction of 392 antipersonnel mines from two minefields. **Denmark** reported that the second of two areas containing mines was cleared in April 2008 with 47,000 square metres released and 13 anti-personnel mines, 5 anti-tank mines and 131 other items (detonators, explosives, or UXO) destroyed. **Eritrea** reported that as of April 2008, it had cleared a total of 54 square kilometers of contaminated land. **Ethiopia** reported that since 2007, 375 square kilometers were released through technical survey and rapid response teams. **Greece**

reported that more than 70 percent of all mined areas have been cleared. **Guinea Bissau** reported that 218,036 square meters of land had recently been released through manual clearance. **Jordan** reported that it had cleared and handed over more than 14 million square meters of land in Aqaba and the Wadi Araba region, having destroyed 58,624 landmines. **Mauritania** indicated that thanks to technical surveys and demining operations carried out in the last two years, twice as much land was released as during the period from entry into force.

44. **Mozambique** reported having released 2,123, 912 square meters in 2007. **Nicaragua** reported that it has destroyed 161,429 of the 176,076 mines sown throughout territory and has completed 964 of the 1006 areas to be addressed. **Rwanda** reported that since the last reporting period it has cleared eight minefields totalling 100,244 square meters, and that one remaining area to be released, totalling approximately 600,000 square meters, is currently being cleared with mechanical equipment. **Sudan** reported that 3.44 square kilometers were released and another 820 kilometers of road were cleared as well. **Tajikistan** reported that over the past year more than 750,000 square meters had been cleared with 2,400 mines and more than 758 UXO destroyed and that the amount of suspected hazardous areas had been reduced by more than 17 million square metres. **Tunisia** reported that over 80 percent of all minefields have now been cleared and that it will be able to fulfil its Article 5 obligations by its 10-year deadline. **Turkey** reported to have undertaken efforts to demine its border with Syria with about 350,000 square metres cleared. **Uganda** reported that during the first trimester of 2008 it has cleared 35 areas in the district of Pader resulting in the destruction of 6 anti-personnel mines and 237 UXO. Furthermore, operations in the areas of Gulu, Kitgum and Amuru had located and destroyed 144 UXO.

45. Some States Parties indicated that survey activities are still required to clarify the nature and extent of their Article 5 implementation challenges. The **Republic of Congo** reported that it is still in the process of determining whether the areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines indeed contain anti-personnel mines and, to this end, it is planning to conduct an impact survey when funds are available. The **Democratic Republic of Congo** indicated that it believes a landmine impact survey is still needed in order to make progress in the fulfilment of its Article 5 obligations. **Zambia** reported that it will soon undertake a survey to better evaluate the extent of mine and other explosive remnants of war contamination in seven of Zambia's nine provinces.

46. While significant progress has been achieved by many States Parties in fulfilling their Article 5 obligations, many challenges remain. This was illustrated in part through the requests for extensions submitted by several States Parties. Of the 15 States Parties that submitted requests in 2008, 8 cited the level of international assistance as a factor impeding implementation in a 10 year period. Eleven indicated that, in order to complete implementation during their requested extension periods, they will require international assistance. Four stated that instability had impeded and may continue to impede implementation. Two stated that overestimations of suspected mined areas had impeded progress. Two indicated that border demarcation in areas where mines were suspected to be emplaced was a matter that could affect implementation during extension periods. Several noted that environmental, climatic and geographical factors had affected and could affect the pace of implementation.

47. Of the 6 remaining States Parties that have reported anti-personnel mines in mined areas under their jurisdiction or control and that have deadlines in 2010 for the fulfilment of

obligations under Paragraph 5.1 of the Convention: (a) Three States Parties – **Argentina**, **Cambodia** and **Tajikistan** – indicated that they will submit a request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas; and, (b) three States Parties – **Albania**, **Rwanda** and **Tunisia** – indicated that they will destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under their jurisdiction or control by their deadlines. The status as it concerns all 6 States Parties with deadlines in 2010 with respect to requests for extensions can be found in Appendix IV. In accordance with Article 5.3 of the Convention and in line with the decisions of the 7MSP, States Parties with deadlines in 2010, which are preparing requests, will need to have their requests considered at the Second Review Conference and they are encouraged to submit their requests to the 9MSP President in March 2009. An overview of timelines for the extensions process as it concerns these and other relevant States Parties can be found in Appendix V.

48. It was recalled that, in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention, States Parties must “make every effort to identify all areas under (their) jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced” and undertake “to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under (their) jurisdiction or control, as soon as possible but not later than ten years after the entry into force of (the) Convention for (a particular) State Party.” It was again noted that the Convention does not contain language requiring each State Party to search every square metre of its territory to find mines. But the Convention does require the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas which a State Party has made every effort to identify. Moreover, it was noted that oft-used terms like “mine-free”, “impact-free”, and “mine-safe” do not exist in the Convention text and are not synonymous with obligations contained in the Convention.

49. It was further recalled that the 8MSP highlighted the value of States Parties making use of the full range of emerging practical methods to more rapidly release, with confidence, areas suspected to contain anti-personnel mines. The wealth of information contained in Article 5 extension requests submitted in 2008 further illustrated the importance of relevant States Parties doing so. For instance, some States Parties have not made use of the full range of actions available to release previously suspected hazardous areas and are developing plans for Article 5 implementation that assume that technical surveys and manual or mechanical clearance methods are the only ones that will be used. Others only recently have applied the full range of actions available to release previously suspected hazardous areas, resulting in several instances in a dramatic increase in the amount of area released. And, with respect to some States Parties, a full range of actions available to release previously suspected hazardous areas has been taken for several years but in the absence of a national standard or policy.

50. Due in large part to the emphasis placed on the matter of land release by the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies and by the Coordinator of the Resource Utilisation Contact Group, it was highlighted that three main actions can be undertaken to release land that has been identified and reported as “mined areas” as defined by the Convention: through non-technical means, technical survey, and clearance. It was noted that land released through non-technical means, when undertaken in accordance with high quality national policies and standards that incorporate various key principles, is not a short-cut to implementing Article 5.1 but rather is a means to more expediently release, with confidence, areas at one time deemed to be “mined areas”.

51. Of particular relevance for the quality of implementation of Article 5, it was recalled that there are significant gender dimensions to mine action, with the core point being that women, men, girls and boys are differently affected by landmines. In particular it was noted that the integration of a gender perspective in mine action should target and result in benefits for all members of society, that gender mainstreaming in mine action does not have to be complex or costly, that culture and tradition do not constitute the main obstacles to mainstreaming gender within mine action activities but rather a lack of resources, knowledge and will constitute the real barriers, and that gender mainstreaming is more than simply employing women as such a focus often simply reinforces gender stereotypes.

52. It was recalled that while the term **mine risk education** (MRE) is not found in the Convention, it is recognised that there are various obligations related to MRE in the Convention.⁴ It was noted that field experience has shown that when MRE and clearance are implemented as an integrated package, MRE has the effect of being an *impact multiplier*. It was further noted that the challenge remains to consistently implement mine action field programmes as seamless packages, rather than implementing MRE and clearance as separate activities.

53. Representatives of several States Parties participated in a mine action technologies workshop in September 2008, which was hosted by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS). The workshop covered a range of topics from the field of applied technology and methodology within humanitarian demining, including the use of new technology to enhance the process of land release through technical survey. The information exchanged during the workshop highlighted that a number of humanitarian demining programmes have made efforts to better integrate the use of machines into their work and that they are focusing more and more on making use of existing technology.

Priorities for the period leading to the Second Review Conference

54. In recalling that the First Review Conference emphasised that Article 5 implementation will be the most significant challenge to be addressed in the period leading to the Second Review Conference, States Parties should place a priority on the following:

- (i) **In order to facilitate progress in implementing Article 5, all States Parties in the process of implementing the Article 5 should, as required, report on the location of all mined areas that contain or are suspected to contain anti-personnel mines under their jurisdiction or control and on progress made in ensuring that these areas have been cleared or otherwise released as to ensure that they are no longer dangerous due to the presence or suspected presence of anti-personnel mines. States Parties concerned are encouraged to take all necessary steps to effectively manage information on changes in the status of previously reported mined areas and to communicate to other**

⁴ In 2000, the mine action community replaced the term “mine awareness” with “mine risk education” to better describe the broad range of non-clearance activities that inform prioritisation, ensure beneficiaries have a voice in this process and help reduce physical impact prior to clearance taking place.

States Parties and relevant communities within their own countries such changes in status.

- (ii) In order to ensure the expedient, efficient and safe release of mined areas, States Parties in the process of implementing Article 5 are encouraged to develop national plans that employ, as required, the full range of methods, in addition to clearance, available to release land, and States Parties preparing Article 5 extension requests are encouraged to incorporate into their requests, in accordance with Article 5.4(d), an indication of how clearance and other methods of land release will be applied in the fulfilment of obligations during the requested extension period.**
- (iii) States Parties providing assistance to mine action activities are encouraged to ensure that the support provided facilitates the application of the full range of actions, in addition to clearance, for releasing mined areas.**

IV. ASSISTING THE VICTIMS

55. Since the 8MSP, greater emphasis continued to be placed on fulfilling responsibilities to landmine victims by the States Parties that have indicated that they hold ultimate responsibility for significant numbers – hundreds or thousands – of landmine survivors. Since the 8MSP, **Jordan** clarified through the Article 5 extension request it submitted in March 2008, that it too has a responsibility for significant numbers of mine survivors. In addition, **Iraq** clarified through its initial Article 7 transparency report that it also has a responsibility for significant numbers of mine survivors. Therefore, there are now 26 States Parties that have identified themselves as holding ultimate responsibility for significant numbers – hundreds or thousands – of landmine survivors: **Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Serbia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda, and Yemen.** As noted in the **Nairobi Action Plan**, “these States Parties have the greatest responsibility to act, but also the greatest needs and expectations for assistance.”

56. Since the 8MSP, the efforts of these 26 States Parties, with the support of others, continued to be guided by the clear framework regarding victim assistance in the context of the Convention which was agreed to at the First Review Conference which includes the following core principles:

- (i) that “the call to assist landmine victims should not lead to victim assistance efforts being undertaken in such a manner as to exclude any person injured or disabled in another manner;”**
- (ii) that victim assistance “does not require the development of new fields or disciplines but rather calls for ensuring that existing health care and social service**

systems, rehabilitation programmes and legislative and policy frameworks are adequate to meet the needs of all citizens – including landmine victims;”

- (iii) that “assistance to landmine victims should be viewed as a part of a country’s overall public health and social services systems and human rights frameworks;” and,
- (iv) that “providing adequate assistance to landmine survivors must be seen in a broader context of development and underdevelopment.”

57. Guided by the conclusions of the First Review Conference and Actions #29 to #39 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration provided support and encouragement to the 26 relevant States Parties to set specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) objectives and a plan of action to fulfil their victim assistance responsibilities, or to provide clarity on how victim assistance obligations are being addressed within policies and programmes to assist all persons with disabilities, in the period leading up to the Second Review Conference. Particular effort was made to overcome the fact that as of the end of the 8MSP only 10 of the then 24 relevant States Parties had developed or initiated an inter-ministerial process to develop and / or implement, a comprehensive plan of action to meet their objectives. Some States Parties had not responded with SMART objectives, and some had failed to spell out what is known or not known about the status of victim assistance. In addition, in some instances preparation of victim assistance objectives had not taken broader national plans into consideration, some States Parties lacked the capacity and resources to develop and implement objectives and national plans and in some there was limited collaboration between mine action centres and relevant ministries and other key actors in the disability sector.

58. Since 2005, Co-Chairs have recognised that overcoming these challenges requires intensive work on a national basis in the relevant States Parties. In this regard, with assistance provided by Australia, Austria, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland, the ISU continued to support national inter-ministerial processes to enable those States Parties with good objectives to develop and implement good plans, to help those with unclear objectives to develop more concrete objectives, and to assist those least engaged in developing objectives and plans in 2005, 2006 and 2007 to get engaged. The ISU provided or offered some degree of support to each of the 26 relevant States Parties and undertook process support visits to Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Jordan, Senegal Tajikistan, Thailand and Uganda.

59. Progress is being made to varying degrees by all relevant States Parties. While not all have initiated an inter-ministerial process, all have engaged to some extent in developing objectives. Much of this progress was reported to the June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration with 18 of the then 26 relevant States Parties having provided updates on the application of relevant provisions of the **Nairobi Action Plan**. Through these updates and from information otherwise provided by these States Parties, progress in strengthening objectives and / or developing, revising or implementing plans was reported by all these States Parties, including by 13 that provided specific updates on progress in achieving or developing objectives.

60. The potential for progress in some States Parties has been hindered by a lack of financial resources. In this regard, it was recalled that States Parties in a position to do so have an obligation to provide assistance for the care, rehabilitation and reintegration of mine victims and have made commitments in this regard in the **Nairobi Action Plan**. The importance of ensuring that victim assistance (in the context of broader efforts to respond to the needs of persons with disabilities) is on the agenda in bilateral development cooperation discussions with relevant States Parties was highlighted.

61. As concerns Action #33 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, there were further developments related to the normative framework that protects and ensures respect for the rights of persons with disabilities including landmine survivors. 16 of the 26 States Parties that have identified themselves as holding ultimate responsibility for significant numbers of landmine survivors have signed the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) that opened for signature on 30 March 2007. In total, 113 States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention have signed the CRPD. 7 States Parties that have identified themselves as holding ultimate responsibility for significant numbers of landmine survivors – **Croatia, El Salvador, Jordan, Nicaragua, Peru, Thailand, and Uganda** – have ratified the CRPD. The CRPD entered into force on 3 May 2008 following the twentieth ratification on 3 April. The CRPD has the potential to promote a more systematic and sustainable approach to victim assistance in the context of the Convention by bringing victim assistance into the broader context of policy and planning for persons with disabilities more generally.

62. Also as concerns Action #33 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, the experience of implementing the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention was built upon in the Convention on Cluster Munitions through legal provisions that embody the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention's States Parties' strategic approach to victim assistance. In addition, progress towards further coherence in assisting the victims of conventional weapons was sought through the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons drawing on the experience of the AP Mine Ban Convention.

63. It was noted that the place of victim assistance within the broader context of disability, health care, social services, rehabilitation, reintegration, development and human rights efforts should promote the development of services, infrastructure and policies to address the rights and needs of all persons with disabilities, regardless of the cause of the disability. It was further highlighted that the framework developed for victim assistance in the context of the Convention is equally applicable to addressing the rights and needs of victims of other explosive remnants of war, including unexploded submunitions. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration called for States Parties to avoid duplication of efforts when implementing other relevant instruments of international law in relation to victim assistance.

64. Pursuant to Action #37 of the **Nairobi Action Plan** to “monitor and promote progress in the achievement of victim assistance goals,” the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance continue efforts to overcome the challenge of establishing clear measures and indicators of progress in the pursuit of the victim assistance aim of the Convention. To assist the States Parties in the period leading up to the Second Review Conference, the Co-Chairs

developed a set of indicators, which could be used in a variety of ways to indicate relative degrees of progress in fulfilling key aims in relation to victim assistance. The indicators are based on relevant actions in the **Nairobi Action Plan** as these are the benchmarks against which States Parties agreed to measure progress in the period between 2005 and 2009. It was noted that such indicators would serve as a useful complement to States Parties' own objectives to assess progress, by the Second Review Conference, in assisting the victims.

65. In keeping with Action #38 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, at least 11 experts with a disability participated in the June 2008 meetings of the Standing Committees, including one who was a member of the delegation of a State Party.

66. In keeping with Action #39 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, 14 of the 26 relevant States Parties included health, rehabilitation, social services or disability professionals in their delegations to the June 2008 meetings of the Standing Committees. In order to make the best possible use of the time dedicated by such experts in the work of the Convention, the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration organised for these professionals a programme parallel to meetings of the Standing Committees. This programme increased the knowledge of the expert participants on victim assistance in the context of the Convention and key components of victim assistance, emphasised the place of victim assistance in the broader contexts of disability, health care, social services, and development, reaffirmed the importance of key principles adopted by the States Parties in 2004, and provided an opportunity for experts to share experiences at the national level. In response to proposals made in 2007 by experts participating in parallel programmes prior to the 8MSP, the ISU established a victim assistance resources section in the Convention's Documentation Centre and finalised a checklist to assist in the development of SMART objectives and a national plan of action. The ISU also produced **A Guide to Understanding Victim Assistance in the Context of the AP Mine Ban Convention**.

Priorities for the period leading to the Second Review Conference

67. Despite advances since the 8MSP, States Parties should continue to deepen their understanding of principles accepted and commitments made through the Convention and at the First Review Conference and the work undertaken since by the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration, in particular by placing a priority in the period leading to the Second Review Conference on the following:

- (i) **As progress in victim assistance should be specific, measurable and time-bound, with specific measures logically needing to be determined by individual States Parties based on their very diverse circumstances, relevant States Parties that have not yet done so should provide an unambiguous way to assess progress with respect to victim assistance as concerns their States by the time of the Second Review Conference.**
- (ii) **In fulfilling their responsibilities to landmine survivors, relevant States Parties and those assisting them should apply the understandings adopted at the First Review Conference, particularly by placing victim assistance in the**

broader context of development and seeing its place as a part of existing State responsibilities in the areas of health care, social services, rehabilitation and human rights frameworks.

- (iii) In fulfilling their responsibilities to landmine survivors, relevant States Parties and those assisting them should recall the need to reinforce existing State structures to ensure the long-term sustainability of victim assistance efforts, noting that the need to pursue the aim of assisting the victims will persist long after the completion of implementation of other Convention aims.**
- (iv) In fulfilling their responsibilities to landmine survivors, relevant States Parties and those assisting them should recall that meeting the rights and needs of persons with disabilities requires a holistic approach that can only be achieved through collaboration and coordination between all relevant ministries and actors in the disability sector, including persons with disabilities.**
- (v) States Parties should continue to strengthen the involvement in the work of the Convention at national and multilateral levels by health care, rehabilitation and disability rights experts and do more to ensure that landmine survivors are effectively involved in national planning and contribute to deliberations on matters that affect them.**
- (vi) In fulfilling their responsibilities to landmine survivors, relevant States Parties should establish priorities according to what is achievable and what will make the greatest difference. They should ensure that their ministries of finance budget for the costs of services for persons with disabilities. States Parties in a position to provide assistance should support the building of national capacities in the areas that are priorities for the recipient State.**
- (vii) In order to truly measure progress since the First Review Conference and to develop sound strategies for the period following the Second Review Conference, States Parties and those that share their aims, in the spirit of cooperation that has been the hallmark of this Convention, should ensure that the information on the national implementation of the victim assistance aim of the Convention is as comprehensive as possible to reflect the reality of the situation on the ground.**

V. OTHER MATTERS ESSENTIAL FOR ACHIEVING THE CONVENTION'S AIMS

A. Cooperation and assistance

68. The use, for the first time, of provisions in Article 5 which permit States Parties to request extensions on the period required to fulfil the obligation to destroy all emplaced anti-

personnel mines highlighted the need for States Parties in a position to do so to act upon their obligations to assist others. Of the States Parties that submitted requests for extensions in 2008, 12 (**Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chad, Croatia, Ecuador, Jordan, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Senegal, Thailand, Yemen and Zimbabwe**) indicated that in order to complete implementation during their respective requested extension period they will require international assistance. In addition, other States Parties still in the process of implementing Article 5 also expressed the need for ongoing assistance from the international community.

69. The Article 5 extensions process also highlighted that assistance is most likely to flow to those States Parties that act with urgency to fulfil their obligations and that demonstrate national ownership, establish effective national demining structures and put in place plans to ensure completion of Article 5 obligations in as short a period as possible.

70. It was noted that not necessarily less money was flowing from donors to recipients but what was changing were funding modalities with budget and sector support becoming increasingly important and with less earmarked funding. It was highlighted that this implies that final decisions on how a donor State's development assistance funding would be used rests to a much greater extent with recipient countries and that this demands new thinking on the part of national demining authorities and advocacy groups regarding securing sufficient funding for the implementation of the Convention.

71. At the 8MSP, it was reported that a linking mine action and development (LMAD) practitioners network was established. Since that time the network has expanded to include over 200 mine action and development practitioners. In addition, since the 8MSP, the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) has published draft LMAD guidelines for humanitarian and development non-governmental organisations (NGOs), for mine action centres and for official development cooperation agencies and co-organised with development NGOs the workshop, **Tackling Poverty in Conflict-Affected Contexts: Linking Development, Security and the Remnants of Conflict**. The workshop promoted poverty reduction in mine-affected communities by strengthening coordination between mine action and development organisations.

72. At the 8MSP, concern was noted regarding how mainstreaming mine action support into development programming can put at risk accessibility to and the allocation of mine action funding. In this context, the 12 December 2007 resolution of the European Parliament marking the tenth anniversary of the Convention called on the European Commission to fully ensure its determination and continuity of efforts to financially assist communities and individuals affected by anti-personnel mines through all available instruments to reinstate a specific anti-personnel mine budget line for the financing of mine action, victim assistance and stockpile destruction required of States Parties that cannot be funded through the new funding instruments.

73. The need, more than ever, to ensure that resources are spent in the most effective and efficient way was again highlighted, particularly through the Norwegian coordinated Resource Utilisation Contact Group. In particular, the Contact Group sought to increase knowledge, understanding and application of the full range of methods to achieve the full, efficient and expedient implementation of Article 5, including through non-technical means.

74. The importance of a two-track approach to cooperation on victim assistance was again noted. Such an approach involves assistance provided by or through specialised organisations in which assistance specifically targets landmines survivors and other war wounded, and assistance in the form of integrated approaches in which development cooperation aims to guarantee the rights of all individuals, including persons with disabilities.

75. Two States Parties implementing Article 4 (**Belarus and Ukraine**) again made it clear that cooperation and assistance will be fundamental to the fulfilment of obligations.

76. Further to Action #46 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, which calls upon States Parties in a position to do so to continue to support, as appropriate, mine action to assist affected populations in areas under the control of armed non-State actors, particularly in areas under the control of actors which have agreed to abide by the Convention's norms, it was reported that assistance efforts led to the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines by seven armed non-State actors⁵ that are signatories to the Geneva Call's Deed of Commitment since the 8MSP.

Priorities for the period leading to the Second Review Conference

77. In recalling their obligations and the commitments they made in the **Nairobi Action Plan** to cooperate with and assist each other, States Parties should place a priority in the period leading to the Second Review Conference on the following:

- (i) With a large number of States Parties continuing to need external resources reminding the international community that anti-personnel mines is not yet “yesterday’s issue”, States Parties in a position to do so should place an increased emphasis on fulfilling their obligations under Article 6 of the Convention.**
- (ii) States Parties requiring assistance should strive to facilitate cooperation initiatives by demonstrating national ownership, establishing effective national demining structures and putting in place plans to ensure completion of Article 5 obligations in as short a period as possible.**
- (iii) States Parties requiring assistance to fulfil their obligations should ensure that mine action is well placed in national development priorities and in bilateral development cooperation discussions with development partners.**
- (iv) Given that two States Parties implementing Article 4 have made it clear that cooperation and assistance will be fundamental to the fulfilment of stockpile destruction obligations, all States Parties concerned should recall the obligation of each State Party giving and receiving assistance under the provisions of Article 6 to cooperate with a view to ensuring the full and prompt implementation of agreed assistance programs.**

⁵ The Polisario Front, the PDKI (Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan), CNF (Chin National Front) and Lahu Democratic Front, Puntland, the CNDDFDD and the SPLA (Sudan).

- (v) **States Parties in a position to do so should continue to report on practical measures that they have undertaken in order to support or encourage mine action in areas under the control of armed non-State actors, in accordance with Action # 46 of the Nairobi Action Plan.**

B. Transparency and the exchange of information

78. Since the 8MSP, initial transparency reports in accordance with Article 7, paragraph 1 have been submitted by six States Parties: Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iraq, Kuwait, Palau and Sao and Principe. Hence, there are four States Parties **Cape Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia and Haiti** that have not yet complied with this obligation.

79. In terms of compliance with Article 7, paragraph 2, at the close of the 8MSP, 56 States Parties had not provided an updated transparency report covering calendar year 2006 as required. In addition, at the close of the 8MSP, the overall reporting rate in 2007 stood at almost 60 percent. In 2008, the following 57 States Parties have not provided an updated transparency report covering calendar year 2007 as required: Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Kiribati, Lesotho, Liberia, Malaysia, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Niger, Nigeria, Niue, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Swaziland, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago and Turkmenistan. As of 28 November 2008 the overall reporting rate in 2008 stood at over 60 per cent.

80. The 8MSP emphasised that those States Parties that are late in submitting initial transparency reports and those that did not provide updated information in 2007 covering the previous calendar year should submit their reports as a matter of urgency. In addition, Action # 52 of the **Nairobi Action Plan** encourages States Parties to annually update Article 7 transparency reports and maximise reporting as a tool to assist implementation, particularly in cases where States Parties must still destroy stockpiled mines, clear mined areas, assist mine victims or take legal or other measures referred to in Article 9. As of 28 November 2008: of the 77 States which, as of the close of the 8MSP, had reported that they had retained anti-personnel mines for reasons permitted under Article 3, each provided transparency information covering the previous calendar year on this matter as required in 2008 with the exception of the following: **Angola, Bhutan, Botswana, Cameroon, Congo, Djibouti, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Honduras, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Togo and Uganda**. One State Party: the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** stated that a decision concerning anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 is pending.⁶ Two States Parties – **Suriname** and **Tajikistan** – reported that in 2007 they destroyed all anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3. In addition since the 8MSP, three States Parties – **Kuwait, Palau** and **Sao Tome and Principe** – reported for the first time that they have not retained mines for purposes permitted under article 3. One State Party – **Iraq** – reported for the first time that it has retained mines for reasons permitted under

⁶ One additional State Party – **Botswana** – which did not submit a transparency report in 2008 previously had indicated that a decision concerning anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 is pending.

article 3. An update on the numbers of anti-personnel mines retained and transferred for permitted reasons is contained in Appendix VI.

81. At the 8MSP, the States Parties adopted amendments to Forms B and G of the transparency reporting format with a view to facilitate, pursuant to Action #15 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, reporting on stockpiled anti-personnel mines discovered and destroyed after Article 4 deadlines have passed. In 2008, **Tajikistan** used the amended reporting format to provide such information. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction invited States Parties to volunteer relevant information on the destruction of previously unknown stockpiles and to make use of the 2 June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee. No State Party took advantage of this opportunity.

82. States Parties may share information beyond what is minimally required through the article 7 reporting format's Form J. Since the 8MSP, the following 41 States Parties made use of Form J as a voluntary means of reporting: Afghanistan, Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Japan, Iraq, Italy, Lithuania, Mauritania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Rwanda, Senegal, Slovakia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Of these, the following 25 States Parties used Form J to report on assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims: Afghanistan, Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Iraq, Japan, New Zealand, Peru, Senegal, Spain, Sudan, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe

83. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention provided an opportunity on 6 June 2008, pursuant to Action #55 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, to exchange views and share experiences on the practical implementation of the various provisions of the Convention, including Articles 1, 2 and 3. With respect to matters concerning Article 2, discussions during the 2 to 6 June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee served to remind States Parties of the results of several years work on the issue of sensitive fuses carried out in the context of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), which identified fuses that cannot be designed to prevent detonation by a person. In addition, States Parties were reminded that the Convention defines an anti-personnel mine as any mine "designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person and that will incapacitate, injure or kill one or more persons." Some States Parties expressed the view that all mines that fall within this definition are prohibited, regardless of whether their main purpose of usage is directed towards vehicles or whether they are called something other than anti-personnel mines.

84. Since the 8MSP, three States not parties – **Azerbaijan, Morocco and Poland** submitted a voluntary transparency report. Poland shared information on all pertinent matters mentioned in article 7. Azerbaijan and Morocco did not provide transparency information on stockpiled anti-personnel mines.

85. The informal article 7 Contact Group, coordinated by Belgium, continued to work to raise awareness on transparency reporting obligations and played an important role in serving as

a point of contact for requests for assistance. On 4 February 2008, the Coordinator of the Contact Group wrote to all States Parties to remind them of their obligations, particularly the 30 April deadline by which updated information covering the last calendar year should be submitted. In addition, the Contact Group met to discuss the status of initial and annual article 7 reporting as well as ways to assist and encourage States Parties to fulfil their article 7 obligations. The Contact Group also highlighted the importance of providing in transparency reports all relevant information required by article 7.

Priorities for the period leading to the Second Review Conference

86. Further to the recognition made by the States Parties that transparency and the effective exchange of information will be crucial to fulfilling their obligations during the period 2005-2009, States Parties should place a priority in the period leading to the next Second Review Conference on the following:

- (i) **Those States Parties which are late in submitting initial transparency reports and those that did not provide updated information in 2007 covering the previous calendar year should submit their reports as a matter of urgency, making use if necessary of the available international assistance to this end.**
- (ii) **As the overall annual transparency reporting rate having steadily fallen since the First Review Conference, the States Parties should place an increased emphasis on fulfilling their obligations under article 7.2 of the Convention to provide updated information not later than 30 April of each year.**
- (iii) **States Parties should consider making better use of the variety of informal mechanisms of information (e.g., the Intersessional Work Programme, Contact Group meetings, etc.) to provide information on matters not specifically required but which may assist in the implementation process and in resource mobilisation.**

C. Preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance

87. Since the 8MSP, **Burundi, the Cook Islands, Cyprus, Jordan and Mauritania** reported that they had adopted legislation to implement the Convention. In addition, **Chile, Ukraine and Venezuela** indicated that they considered their existing national laws to be sufficient in the context of article 9 obligations. There are now 57 States Parties that have reported that they have adopted legislation in the context of article 9 obligations. An additional 32 have reported that they consider existing laws to be sufficient. 67 States Parties have not yet reported having adopted legislation in the context of Article 9 obligations or that they consider existing laws to be sufficient. An overview of implementation of article 9 is contained in Appendix VII.

88. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention invited States Parties to volunteer information at the 6 June 2008 meeting of the Standing Committee on their progress in adopting legislative, administrative and other measures

in accordance with Article 9 and if relevant, to make their priorities for assistance known. Seven States Parties took advantage of this opportunity and provided updated information in this forum.

89. Since the 8MSP, the States Parties remained committed to work together to facilitate compliance under the Convention. In addition, since the 8MSP, no State Party submitted a request for clarification to a Meeting of the States Parties in accordance with article 8, paragraph 2, nor has any proposed that a Special Meeting of the States Parties be convened in accordance with Article 8, paragraph 5. As well, the UNODA continued fulfilling the UN Secretary General's responsibility to prepare and update a list of names, nationalities and other relevant data of qualified experts designated for fact finding missions authorized in accordance with article 8, paragraph 8. Since the 8MSP, 15 States Parties: Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cyprus, France, Guatemala, Germany, Mali, Moldova, Portugal, Peru, Tunisia, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland and Ukraine, provided new or updated information for the list of experts.

90. At the June 2008 meetings of the Standing Committees, States Parties expressed concern with the three cases of non-compliance with article 4 and called on Belarus, Greece and Turkey to rectify their respective situations as soon as possible. One State Party noted that the States Parties could be more methodological in dealing with compliance issues and that this could be considered in the period leading to the Second Review Conference.

91. Since the 8MSP, concern was again expressed about a UN Monitoring Group's report on Somalia referring to the alleged transfer of landmines into Somalia by three States Parties to the Convention and by one State not party. The President of the 8MSP wrote to the Chair of the Monitoring Group to seek further information. The President did not receive a response. It was noted that the States Parties concerned rejected claims made in the report.

92. Two States Parties, Cambodia and Thailand, informed the 9MSP respectively of their views on, and ongoing investigations of, the circumstances under which two Thai army rangers were seriously injured by landmines on 6 October 2008 and the ongoing process of bilateral consultations under article 8.1 of the Convention.

Priorities for the period leading to the Second Review Conference

93. In recalling the commitment made in the Nairobi Action Plan to continue to be guided by the knowledge that individually and collectively they are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Convention, the States Parties should place a priority in the period leading to the Second Review Conference on the following:

- (i) Given that approximately 40 per cent of the States Parties have not yet reported having implemented Article 9, State Parties should place a renewed emphasis on the obligation to take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party by the Convention.**

- (ii) **The President will continue to follow up to seek clarity with respect to reports, such as those of UN Monitoring Groups, which allege violations of the Convention.**

D. Implementation Support

94. Since the 8MSP, the Coordinating Committee met six times to prepare for and assess the outcome of the Intersessional Work Programme and to coordinate the work of the Standing Committees with the work of the Meeting of the States Parties since the 8MSP. The Coordinating Committee continued to operate in an open and transparent manner with summary reports of meetings made available to all interested parties on the Convention's web site.

95. With respect to the Intersessional Work Programme, at the June 2008 meetings of the Standing Committees there were approximately 500 registered delegates representing 92 States Parties, 18 States not parties and numerous international and non-governmental organizations. These meetings featured discussions on the implementation of key provisions of the Convention and on assuring that cooperation and assistance would continue to function well. The meetings were again supported by GICHD.

96. In 2008, the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) of the GICHD continued to assist States Parties to implement the Convention's obligations and objectives. The ISU supported the President, the President-Designate, the Co-Chairs, the Contact Group Coordinators, the Sponsorship Programme donors group and individual States Parties with initiatives to pursue the aims of the **Nairobi Action Plan**. In addition, through the provision of professional advice, support and information services, the ISU assisted individual States Parties in addressing various implementation challenges.

97. The ISU shouldered an additional heavy work load between the 8MSP and 9MSP in providing advice to individual States Parties in the preparation of Article 5 extension requests and in supporting the work of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests. In addition, the ISU assumed an additional financial burden in 2008 when, due to the end of a traditional funding mechanism, the Coordinating Committee endorsed the use of the ISU Trust Fund to cover the costs of interpretation at meetings of the Standing Committees.

98. The continuing operations of ISU were assured by voluntary contributions by the following States Parties since the 8MSP: Albania, Austria, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Qatar, Slovenia, Spain and Turkey. In addition, pursuant to the decision of the 7MSP "to encourage all States Parties in a position to do so to provide additional earmarked funds to the ISU Trust Fund to cover costs related to support the Article 5 extensions process," the 2008 ISU budget provided a means for such earmarking. The following States Parties provided earmarked funding: Canada, Czech Republic and Norway. As well, the ISU was able to continue to provide victim assistance **process support** to the inter-ministerial coordination efforts of States Parties that have reported the responsibility for significant numbers of mine victims through project funding provided by Australia, Norway, New Zealand and Switzerland.

99. The UNODA and Switzerland, with the assistance of ISU, made arrangements for the 9MSP. The States Parties continued to participate in Contact Groups on universalisation, Article 7 reporting, resource utilization and linking mine action and development.

100. The Sponsorship Programme continued to ensure participation in the Convention's meetings by States Parties normally not able to be represented at these meetings by relevant experts or officials. In advance of the June 2008 meetings of the Standing Committees, the programme's Donors' Group invited 45 States Parties to request sponsorship for up to 68 delegates to provide updates on Convention implementation. 40 States Parties accepted this offer with 54 representatives of States Parties sponsored to attend the June meetings. The programme's Donors' Group invited 45 States Parties to request sponsorship for up to 77 delegates to attend the 9MSP. 35 States Parties accepted this offer with 56 representatives of States Parties sponsored to attend the 9MSP.

101. Sponsorship of States Parties' delegates was again instrumental in the application of Action #39 of the **Nairobi Action Plan**, to include health and social service professionals in deliberations. 16 relevant States Parties accepted the Donors Group offer of support at the June 2008 meetings. And 20 relevant States Parties took advantage of the Donors' Group offer of support for participation by such a professional in the 9MSP.

102. The Sponsorship Programme also contributed to the aims of universalisation, with the Donors' Group having offered sponsorship to eight States not parties for the June 2008 meetings of the Standing Committees and eight States not parties for the 9MSP. Four States not parties accepted this offer in June 2008, with most providing an update on their views on the Convention at the 2 June meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention. Five States not parties accepted this offer for the 9MSP.

103. The continuing operations of the Sponsorship Programme were assured in 2008 by contributions from the following States Parties since the 8MSP: Italy and Spain.

Priorities for the period leading to the Second Review Conference

104. In recalling the commitments they made in the **Nairobi Action Plan** regarding the implementation mechanisms they have established or which have emerged on an informal basis, the States Parties should place a priority in the period leading to the Second Review Conference on the following:

- (i) **All States Parties should continue to provide on a voluntary basis the necessary financial resources for the operation of the Implementation Support Unit, particularly given the increased work load being absorbed by the ISU.**
- (ii) **All States Parties in a position to do so should continue to contribute on a voluntary basis to the Sponsorship Programme thereby maintaining widespread representation at meetings of the Convention, particularly by mine-affected developing States Parties.**

Appendix I**States that have ratified or acceded to the Convention**

State	Date of Formal Acceptance	Date of Entry-into-force
Afghanistan	11 September 2002	1 March 2003
Albania	29 February 2000	1 August 2000
Algeria	9 October 2001	1 April 2002
Andorra	29 June 1998	1 March 1999
Angola	5 July 2002	1 January 2003
Antigua and Barbuda	3 May 1999	1 November 1999
Argentina	14 September 1999	1 March 2000
Australia	14 January 1999	1 July 1999
Austria	29 June 1998	1 March 1999
Bahamas	31 July 1998	1 March 1999
Bangladesh	6 September 2000	1 March 2001
Barbados	26 January 1999	1 July 1999
Belarus	3 September 2003	1 March 2004
Belgium	4 September 1998	1 March 1999
Belize	23 April 1998	1 March 1999
Benin	25 September 1998	1 March 1999
Bhutan	18 August 2005	1 February 2006
Bolivia	9 June 1998	1 March 1999
Bosnia and Herzegovina	8 September 1998	1 March 1999
Botswana	1 March 2000	1 September 2000
Brazil	30 April 1999	1 October 1999
Brunei Darussalam	24 April 2006	1 October 2006
Bulgaria	4 September 1998	1 March 1999
Burkina Faso	16 September 1998	1 March 1999
Burundi	22 October 2003	1 April 2004
Cambodia	28 July 1999	1 January 2000
Cameroon	19 September 2002	1 March 2003
Canada	3 December 1997	1 March 1999
Cape Verde	14 May 2001	1 November 2001
Central African Republic	8 November 2002	1 May 2003
Chad	6 May 1999	1 November 1999
Chile	10 September 2001	1 March 2002
Colombia	6 September 2000	1 March 2001
Comoros	19 September 2002	1 March 2003
Congo (Brazzaville)	4 May 2001	1 November 2001
Cook Islands	15 March 2006	1 September 2006
Costa Rica	17 March 1999	1 September 1999
Côte d' Ivoire	30 June 2000	1 December 2000
Croatia	20 May 1998	1 March 1999
Cyprus	17 January 2003	1 July 2003
Czech Republic	26 October 1999	1 April 2000
Democratic Republic of the Congo	2 May 2002	1 November 2002

State	Date of Formal Acceptance	Date of Entry-into-force
Denmark	<u>8 June 1998</u>	1 March 1999
Djibouti	<u>18 May 1998</u>	1 March 1999
Dominica	<u>26 March 1999</u>	1 September 1999
Dominican Republic	<u>30 June 2000</u>	1 December 2000
Ecuador	<u>29 April 1999</u>	1 October 1999
El Salvador	<u>27 January 1999</u>	1 July 1999
Equatorial Guinea	<u>16 September 1998</u>	1 March 1999
Eritrea	<u>27 August 2001</u>	1 February 2002
Estonia	12 May 2004	1 November 2004
Ethiopia	17 December 2004	1 June 2005
Fiji	<u>10 June 1998</u>	1 March 1999
France	<u>23 July 1998</u>	1 March 1999
Gabon	<u>8 September 2000</u>	1 March 2001
Gambia	23 September 2002	1 March 2003
Germany	<u>23 July 1998</u>	1 March 1999
Ghana	<u>30 June 2000</u>	1 December 2000
Greece	25 September 2003	1 March 2004
Grenada	<u>19 August 1998</u>	1 March 1999
Guatemala	<u>26 March 1999</u>	1 September 1999
Guinea	<u>8 October 1998</u>	1 April 1999
Guinea Bissau	<u>22 May 2001</u>	1 November 2001
Guyana	5 August 2003	1 February 2004
Haiti	15 February 2006	1 August 2006
Holy See	<u>17 February 1998</u>	1 March 1999
Honduras	<u>24 September 1998</u>	1 March 1999
Hungary	<u>6 April 1998</u>	1 March 1999
Iceland	5 May 1999	1 November 1999
Indonesia	16 February 2007	1 August 2007
Iraq	15 August 2007	1 February 2008
Ireland	3 December 1997	1 March 1999
Italy	23 April 1999	1 October 1999
Jamaica	17 July 1998	1 March 1999
Japan	30 September 1998	1 March 1999
Jordan	13 November 1998	1 May 1999
Kenya	23 January 2001	1 July 2001
Kiribati	7 September 2000	1 March 2001
Kuwait	30 July 2007	1 January 2008
Latvia	1 July 2005	1 January 2006
Lesotho	2 December 1998	1 June 1999
Liberia	23 December 1999	1 June 2000
Liechtenstein	5 October 1999	1 April 2000
Lithuania	12 May 2003	1 November 2003
Luxembourg	14 June 1999	1 December 1999
Madagascar	16 September 1999	1 March 2000
Malawi	13 August 1998	1 March 1999
Malaysia	22 April 1999	1 October 1999
Maldives	7 September 2000	1 March 2001
Mali	2 June 1998	1 March 1999

State	Date of Formal Acceptance	Date of Entry-into-force
Malta	7 May 2001	1 November 2001
Mauritania	21 July 2000	1 January 2001
Mauritius	3 December 1997	1 March 1999
Mexico	9 June 1998	1 March 1999
Monaco	17 November 1998	1 May 1999
Montenegro	23 October 2006	1 April 2007
Mozambique	25 August 1998	1 March 1999
Namibia	21 September 1998	1 March 1999
Nauru	7 August 2000	1 February 2001
Netherlands	12 April 1999	1 October 1999
New Zealand	27 January 1999	1 July 1999
Nicaragua	30 November 1998	1 May 1999
Niger	23 March 1999	1 September 1999
Nigeria	27 September 2001	1 March 2002
Niue	15 April 1998	1 March 1999
Norway	9 July 1998	1 March 1999
Palau	18 November 2007	1 May 2008
Panama	7 October 1998	1 April 1999
Papua New Guinea	28 June 2004	1 December 2004
Paraguay	13 November 1998	1 May 1999
Peru	17 June 1998	1 March 1999
Philippines	15 February 2000	1 August 2000
Portugal	19 February 1999	1 August 1999
Qatar	13 October 1998	1 April 1999
Republic of Moldova	8 September 2000	1 March 2001
Romania	30 November 2000	1 May 2001
Rwanda	8 June 2000	1 December 2000
Saint Kitts and Nevis	2 December 1998	1 June 1999
Saint Lucia	13 April 1999	1 October 1999
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1 August 2001	1 February 2002
Samoa	23 July 1998	1 March 1999
San Marino	18 March 1998	1 March 1999
Sao Tome and Principe	31 March 2003	1 September 2003
Senegal	24 September 1998	1 March 1999
Serbia	18 September 2003	1 March 2004
Seychelles	2 June 2000	1 December 2000
Sierra Leone	25 April 2001	1 October 2001
Slovakia	25 February 1999	1 August 1999
Slovenia	27 October 1998	1 April 1999
Solomon Islands	26 January 1999	1 July 1999
South Africa	26 June 1998	1 March 1999
Spain	19 January 1999	1 July 1999
Sudan	13 October 2003	1 April 2004
Suriname	23 May 2002	1 November 2002
Swaziland	22 December 1998	1 June 1999
Sweden	30 November 1998	1 May 1999
Switzerland	24 March 1998	1 March 1999
Tajikistan	12 October 1999	1 April 2000

State	Date of Formal Acceptance	Date of Entry-into-force
Thailand	27 November 1998	1 May 1999
the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	9 September 1998	1 March 1999
Timor-Leste	7 May 2003	1 November 2003
Togo	9 March 2000	1 September 2000
Trinidad and Tobago	27 April 1998	1 March 1999
Tunisia	9 July 1999	1 January 2000
Turkey	25 September 2003	1 March 2004
Turkmenistan	19 January 1998	1 March 1999
Uganda	25 February 1999	1 August 1999
Ukraine	27 December 2005	1 June 2006
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	31 July 1998	1 March 1999
United Republic of Tanzania	13 November 2000	1 May 2001
Uruguay	7 June 2001	1 December 2001
Vanuatu	16 September 2005	1 March 2006
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	14 April 1999	1 October 1999
Yemen	1 September 1998	1 March 1999
Zambia	23 February 2001	1 August 2001
Zimbabwe	18 June 1998	1 March 1999

Appendix II

Deadlines for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines

	2007					2008					2009					2010					2011					2012																								
State Party	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F
Belarus																																																		
Ethiopia																																																		
Greece																																																		
Kuwait																																																		
Turkey																																																		
Ukraine																																																		

Appendix IV

**States Parties in the process of implementing Article 5 which have a deadline in 2010:
Status with respect to the submission of extension requests**

<p>States Parties with deadlines for the fulfilment of obligations under Article 5, paragraph 1 of the Convention which have indicated that they will submit a request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas under their jurisdiction or control:</p>	<p>States Parties with deadlines for the fulfilment of obligations under Article 5, paragraph 1 of the Convention which have indicated that they will destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under their jurisdiction or control no later than 10 years after entry into force of the Convention for each State Party:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Argentina ▪ Cambodia ▪ Tajikistan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Albania ▪ Rwanda ▪ Tunisia



<p>These States Parties will need to have their requests considered at the Second Review Conference at the end of 2009.</p> <p>In accordance with the decisions of the 7MSP, these States Parties are encouraged to submit their requests no fewer than nine months before the Second Review Conference (i.e., approximately March 2009).</p>	<p>In accordance with the decisions of the 7MSP, these States Parties, when they have completed implementation of Article 5, paragraph 1, may wish to use the model declaration as a voluntary means to report completion of Article 5 obligations.</p>
---	---

Appendix VI

Table 1. Anti-personnel mines reported retained or transferred by the States Parties for reasons permitted under Article 3, and, a summary of additional information provided by these States Parties

State Party	Mines reported retained		Additional information volunteered by the State Party in since the 8MSP
	2007	2008	
Afghanistan	2,692	2,680	Afghanistan reported that UNMACA uses retained anti-personnel mines in its test centres in Kabul and Kandahar to accredit the mine detection dogs of implementing partners and stores mines that may be needed in the future in a secure bunker. The implementing partners, under the oversight of UNMACA, use anti-personnel mines for training of their mine detection dogs and deminers.
Algeria	15,030	15,030	
Angola	2,512		
Argentina	1,471	1,380	Argentina indicated that in 2007 the navy destroyed 81 mines SB-33 during training activities conducted by the Company of Amphibious Engineers on destruction techniques. The army retains mines to develop an unmanned vehicle for the detection and handling of mines and explosives. Development of this vehicle started on 1 March 2004 and is 60% complete. The vehicle is currently at the stage of assembling. During 2007 no mines were destroyed for this project. Mines are also retained by the Institute of Scientific and Technical Research of the Armed Forces to test charges for the destruction of UXO/mines. In 2007, 10 mines were destroyed in the testing grounds.
Australia	7133	6,998	Australia reported that stocks are now centralised, with small numbers in ammunition depots throughout Australia to support regional training. Training is conducted by the School of Military Engineering in Sydney. Australia indicated that stock levels would be regularly reviewed and assessed, that only a realistic training quantity was held, and that this would be depleted over time. Stocks in excess of this figure will be destroyed on an ongoing basis.
Bangladesh	12,500	12,500	
Belarus	6,030	6,030	
Belgium	3,569	3,287	Belgium reported that in 2007, 282 mines were used during different sessions of courses organised by the Belgian Armed Forces with the aim of educating and training EOD specialists and deminers with live ammunition and training militaries in mine risk education.
Benin	16	16	
Bhutan	4,491		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,708	1,920	

State Party	Mines reported retained		Additional information volunteered by the State Party in since the 8MSP
	2007	2008	
Botswana ¹			
Brazil	13,550	12,381	Brazil indicated that the Brazilian Army decided to keep its landmine stockpiles for the training of demining teams up to 2019, taking into consideration the prorogation of the deadline for the destruction of landmines, in accordance with Article 3.
Bulgaria	3,670	3,682	
Burundi		4	
Cameroon ²			
Canada	1,963	1,963	<p>Canada reported that it retains live anti-personnel mines to study the effect of blast on equipment, to train soldiers on procedures to defuse live anti-personnel mines and to demonstrate the effect of landmines. For example, live mines help determine whether suits, boots and shields will adequately protect personnel who clear mines. The live mines are used by the Defence department's research establishment located at Suffield, Alberta and by various military training establishments across Canada. The Department of National Defence represents the only source of anti-personnel mines which can be used by Canadian industry to test equipment. Since the last report Canada has not acquired or used anti-personnel mines mainly due to the closure of the Canadian Centre for Mine Action Technologies.</p> <p>A variety of anti-personnel mines are necessary for training soldiers in mine detection and clearance. Counter-mine procedures and equipment developed by Canada's research establishment must also be tested on different types of mines member of the Canadian Forces or other organisations might encounter during demining operations. The Department of National Defence retains a maximum of 2,000. This number is to ensure Canada has a sufficient number of mines for training and for valid testing in the area of mine detection and clearance.</p> <p>Canada will continue to conduct trials, testing and evaluation as new technologies are developed. There will be a continuing requirement for provision of real mine targets and simulated minefields for research and development of detection technologies.</p>
Cape Verde ³			
Chile	4,484	4,153	Chile reported that its retained anti-personnel mines were under the control of the army and the navy. In 2007, 328 mines were destroyed in anti-personnel mines detection, disposal, and destruction training courses organized for deminers at the School of Military Engineers of the Army. 3 mines were destroyed to prepare the Partida de Operaciones de Minas Terrestres (Chilean Navy's demining unit) in humanitarian demining.
Colombia	586	586	
Congo	372		

¹ In its report submitted in 2001, Botswana indicated that a "small quantity" of mines would be retained. No updated information has since been provided.

² In its report submitted in 2005, Cameroon reported the same 3,154 mines under Article 4 and Article 3.

³ Cape Verde has not yet submitted a transparency report in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention.

State Party	Mines reported retained		Additional information volunteered by the State Party in since the 8MSP
	2007	2008	
Croatia	6,179	6,103	In 2003, CROMAC established the Centre for Testing, Development and Training (CTDT), whose prime task is to conduct testing on demining machines, mine detection dogs and metal detectors, as well as research and development of other demining techniques and technologies. CTDT is the only organisation in the Republic of Croatia authorised to use live anti-personnel mines in controlled areas and under the supervision of highly qualified personnel. In 2004, for that purpose, CTDT established a test site "Cerovec" near the city of Karlovac. Croatia reported that 76 mines were used in 2007 during testing and evaluating of demining machines on the test polygon in Cerovec. On the basis of current estimates regarding requirements for testing of demining machines in 2007, Croatia estimates that 175 anti-personnel mines will be needed in 2008.
Cyprus	1,000	1,000	
Czech Republic	4,699	4,699	
Democratic Republic of the Congo ⁴			
Denmark	2,008	2,008	Denmark reported that its retained mines are used as follows: a demonstration of the effects of anti-personnel mines is given to all recruits during training; during training of engineer units for international tasks, instructors in mine awareness are trained to handle anti-personnel mines; and, during training of ammunition clearing units, anti-personnel mines are used for training in ammunition dismantling. Anti-personnel mines are not used for the purpose of training in mine laying.
Djibouti ⁵			
Ecuador	1,000	1,000	
El Salvador ⁶			
Equatorial Guinea ⁷			
Eritrea ⁸	109	109	
Ethiopia		1,114	

⁴In its reports submitted in 2007 and 2008, the Democratic Republic of the Congo indicated that the decision concerning mines retained is pending.

⁵ In its report submitted in 2005, Djibouti indicated that 2,996 mines were retained under Article 3.

⁶ In its report submitted in 2006, El Salvador indicated that 96 mines were retained under Article 3.

⁷Equatorial Guinea has not yet submitted a transparency report in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention.

⁸ In its report submitted in 2005, Eritrea indicated that the mines retained under Article 3 were inert. In its report submitted in 2008, Eritrea indicated that 8 of the 109 retained mines were inert.

State Party	Mines reported retained		Additional information volunteered by the State Party in since the 8MSP
	2007	2008	
France	4,170	4,152	France reported that its retained mines were used to: 1) test mine detection devices, including the “Mine Picker”, a mine detection robot developed by Pegase Instrumentation (the cost-efficiency study carried out in 2007 concluded that this project would be abandoned) and the MMSR-SYDERA system. 2) to assess the anti-personnel mine threat, 3) to test protective anti-personnel boots (no tests having been carried out since 2005, France does not plan to continue with this activity).
Germany	2,526	2,388	<p>At the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, Germany reported that pursuant to Article 3, it has set itself an upper ceiling of 3,000 anti-personnel mines to the maximum. These stocks of APMs clearly earmarked and stored for non-operational purposes, are regarded as necessary for the effective continuation and improvement of the protection of Germany’s deployed soldiers against anti-personnel mines.</p> <p>The available anti-personnel mines pool enables a cost-saving and efficient execution of technical examinations in the area of Force Protection. Due to the International Test and Evaluation Programme for Humanitarian Demining (ITEP), many efforts have been undertaken to test and evaluate mine action equipments, systems and technologies. Nevertheless, efforts have continued in order to develop field equipment and tools based on realistic and future needs for the Federal Armed Forces.</p> <p>All together since 1998, Germany has used up a total of 685 antipersonnel mines for testing. For training purposes, German Armed Forces are using dummies. At the moment Germany is undertaking a study to elaborate if a special test field could be set up in Germany for testing multiple sensor mine detection and search systems. If this project can be realized, it is envisaged to also offer these facilities for testing procedures to NATO Member States as well as to Partners in the International Test and Evaluation Programme for Humanitarian Demining.</p> <p>In 2007, at the Federal Armed Forces Technical Centre 91, 14 anti-personnel mines were used for the vehicle mine protection programme, 20 anti-personnel mines were used for mine clearance equipment testing and 56 anti-personnel mines were demilitarized during ammunition surveillance.</p>
Greece	7,224	7,224	
Guinea-Bissau		109	
Haiti ⁹			
Honduras	826		
Indonesia	N/A	4,978	Indonesia reported that the anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3 will be used as instruction/teaching materials which will further enhance the students capability to identify, detect and destruct landmines in general, particularly in preparing Indonesia’s participation in peacekeeping operations.
Iraq	N/A	9	
Ireland	75	70	

⁹Haiti has not yet submitted a transparency report in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention.

State Party	Mines reported retained		Additional information volunteered by the State Party in since the 8MSP
	2007	2008	
Italy	750	721	Italy indicated that warfare mines are utilized for bomb disposals and pioneers training courses. Four such training courses are organised every year.
Japan	4,277	3,712	<p>At the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, Japan indicated that in accordance with the exceptions in Article 3, Japan has used anti-personnel mines for the purposes of training in mine detection, mine clearance, and mine destruction techniques, as well as for developing mine detection and mine clearance equipment. Within its annual Article 7 reports, Japan supplied information on the use of its retained mines and the results of such use. Specifically, Japan provided data on: (1) mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques developed and under development; (2) training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction; and (3) the number of personnel trained. In 2008, Japan plans to use anti-personnel landmines retained under Article 3 for the purpose of training infantry and engineering units of the Self Defense Force in mine detection and mine clearance.</p> <p>In accordance with Article 3 of the Convention, Japan retains anti-personnel mines for the purpose of training in and development of mine detection, mine clearance and mine destruction techniques (At the time of entry into force in 1999: 15,000 retained. As of December 2007: 3,712 retained). However, the number possessed is the minimum absolutely necessary for training the Self Defense Force units and technology development trails.</p> <p>Japan reported that it consumed 565 mines in 2007 for education and training in mine detection and mine clearance, and for the development of mine detectors and mine clearance equipment.</p>
Jordan	1,000	950	<p>Jordan reported at the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention that NPA-Jordan carried out mine detection training of 4 new mine detection dog teams in May 2007 and July 2007 using a total of 50 retained mines. Training took place in the south of Jordan for the Wadi Araba/Aqaba Mine Clearance Project as well as in the north of Jordan for the Northern Border Project.</p> <p>The MDD Teams are trained by first creating a sample mine field using a small number of retained mines of the same type the MDD teams will be expected to encounter. The mines are laced in the ground prior to the training. The training is then carried out by the MDD teams in order for the dogs to learn to recognize the scent of those particular mines.</p>
Kenya	2,460	3,000	
Latvia	902	899	Latvia indicated that there were no reasons for retaining mines other than training EOD experts for participation in international operations. In 2007, 3 mines were destroyed during mine destruction training.
Luxembourg	900	855	
Malawi ¹⁰			
Mali ¹¹			

¹⁰In its report submitted in 2005, Malawi indicated that mines reported as retained under Article 3 are in fact “dummy” mines.

¹¹ In its report submitted in 2005, Mali indicated that 600 mines were retained in accordance with Article 3.

State Party	Mines reported retained		Additional information volunteered by the State Party in since the 8MSP
	2007	2008	
Mauritania	728	728	
Mozambique ¹²			
Namibia ¹³			
Netherlands		2,516	
Nicaragua	1,004	1,004	
Niger ¹⁴			
Palau ¹⁵	N/A		
Peru	4,012	4,000	
Portugal	1,115	760	
Romania	2,500	2,500	
Rwanda		65	In 2007, Rwanda reported that the 65 mines retained under Article 3 were uprooted from minefields to (a) train deminers to IMAS, (b) to practice EOD personnel and c) to train mine detection dogs. So far 25 EOD personnel have been trained into 5 EOD technicians, 10 operators and 10 Recce agents.
Serbia ¹⁶		5,565	Serbia reported at the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention that mines retained in accordance with Article 3 are retained in depots at 3 locations in the Republic of Serbia. They have been retained for the purpose of organizing personnel training for probable engagement in UN peace operations, protection equipment testing and mine detectors. From December 2007 to March 2008, the ITF and the Government Centre for Demining of the Republic of Serbia organised and carried out a basic demining and battle area clearance course using different type of exercise mines and ammunition provided by the Ministry of Defence. 35 participants completed the basic course and 7 of them completed an additional course for team leaders for bomb disposal officers.
Slovakia	1,427	1,422	
Slovenia	2,993	2,992	

¹² In its report submitted in 2006, Mozambique indicated that 1,319 mines were retained in accordance with Article 3.

¹³ In its report submitted in 2006, Namibia indicated that 3,899 mines were retained in accordance with Article 3.

¹⁴ In its report submitted in 2006, Niger indicated that 146 mines were retained in accordance with Article 3. The same number of mines reported in 2003 were also reported in Form B.

¹⁵ Palau's initial report is not due until 28 October 2008.

¹⁶ In its report submitted in 2008, Serbia indicated two different figures for the number of mines retained under Article 3 (5,565 and 5,307).

State Party	Mines reported retained		Additional information volunteered by the State Party in since the 8MSP
	2007	2008	
South Africa	4,406	4,380	South Africa indicated that 4,291 mines were retained by Defencetek, as formally mandated by Ministerial authorization dated 7 March 2006 and 89 were retained by the South African Police Service, Explosive Unit, Office Bomb Disposal and Research. Of the 4,317 anti-personnel retained by the Department of Defence reported in 2007, 6 anti-personnel mines were used in accordance with Article 3. Of the 109 antipersonnel mines retained by the South African Police Service reported in 2007, 21 were used in accordance with Article 3 and one additional anti-personnel mine, a MON 50, was recovered from an arms cache and retained for training purposes.
Spain	2,034	1,994	
Sudan ¹⁷	10,000	4,997	
Suriname	150	0	Suriname indicated that 146 mines of the type M/969 were destroyed.
Sweden	10,578	7,531	
Tajikistan	105	0	During 2006, Tajikistan destroyed 150 mines in the course of training activities. Mines retained are used for demining training and research activities.
Thailand	4,713	3,650	
Togo ¹⁸			
Tunisia	5,000	4,995	
Turkey	15,150	15,150	
Ukraine	1,950	223	Ukraine indicated that 1,727 mines were destroyed and used for personal protective equipment for deminers.
Uganda		1,764	
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	650	609	The United Kingdom indicated that anti-personnel mines are retained with the objective of identifying APM threat to UK forces and maintaining and improving detection, protection, clearance and destruction techniques.
United Republic of Tanzania	1,102	950	
Uruguay		260	
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	4,960	4,960	

¹⁷ In its report submitted in 2006, Sudan reported for the first time both the anti-personnel mines retained by the Government of National Unity (5,000) and by the Government of Southern Sudan (5,000).

¹⁸ In its report submitted in 2004, Togo reported retaining 436 mines in accordance with Article 3.

Yemen ¹⁹			
Zambia	3,346	2,232	
Zimbabwe ²⁰	700	600	Zimbabwe reported that retained mines will be used during training of Zimbabwe's troops and deminers in order to enable them to identify and learn how to detect, handle, neutralise and destroy the mines in Zimbabwean minefields.

¹⁹ In 2007, Yemen indicated that 4,000 mines were transferred from the military central storage facilities in Sana'a and Aden to the military engineering department training facility and MDDU and that 240 mines had been used for dogs training. In 2008, reported that 3,760 mines were transferred.

²⁰ In its report submitted in 2008, Zimbabwe reported 700 mines retained for training in Form D and indicated that 100 had been destroyed during training in 2007 in Form B.

Table 2. Anti-personnel mines reported transferred in accordance with Article 3^a

State Party	Mines reported transferred	Additional information
Afghanistan	250	UNMACA and the implementing partners transferred 250 mines in 2007 from stockpile destruction sites for training and accreditation purposes.
Burundi	664	Transferred for destruction by the Ministry of Defence
Cambodia	1,616	1022 mines transferred from various sources to the CMAC/HQ for destruction and 594 mines transferred from various sources and demining units. CMAC found them in the mined areas.
Ethiopia	303	Transferred to training areas/centres Gemhalo, Entot and Togochale.
Jordan	50	
Nicaragua	72	26 PMN mines were transferred from the Nicaraguan Army to the Corps of Engineers and 46 mines were transferred to the army's dogs unit.
Suriname	146	Transferred for destruction. In the period June-July 2007 and August-November 2007, the last 146 anti-personnel mines were destroyed. The National Army and the Ronco Corporation Company from the United States of America worked together on the project regarding the disposal of ammunition. As of November 2007, the National Army of Suriname did not possess anti-personnel mines in stockpile.
Thailand	1,063	Thailand transferred 63 mines for the purpose of training and 1,000 mines for the purpose of destruction.
Yemen	3,760	Transferred from the military central storage facilities in Sana'a and Aden to the military engineering department training facility and MDDU.
Zambia	1,020	Used in minefield laying and demining techniques for military students at the Staff College and School of Engineers.

^a This table includes only those States Parties that reported mines transferred in accordance with Article 3 since the 8MSP.

Appendix VII**THE STATUS OF LEGAL MEASURES TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE
WITH ARTICLE 9****A. States Parties that have reported that they have adopted legislation in the context of Article 9 obligations**

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| 1. Albania | 21. El Salvador | 42. Niger |
| 2. Australia | 22. France | 43. Norway |
| 3. Austria | 23. Germany | 44. Peru |
| 4. Belarus | 24. Guatemala | 45. St Vincent and the
Grenadines |
| 5. Belgium | 25. Honduras | 46. Senegal |
| 6. Belize | 26. Hungary | 47. Seychelles |
| 7. Bosnia and
Herzegovina | 27. Iceland | 48. South Africa |
| 8. Brazil | 28. Italy | 49. Spain |
| 9. Burkina Faso | 29. Japan | 50. Sweden |
| 10. Burundi | 30. Jordan | 51. Switzerland |
| 11. Cambodia | 31. Latvia | 52. Trinidad and
Tobago |
| 12. Canada | 32. Liechtenstein | 53. Turkey |
| 13. Chad | 33. Luxembourg | 54. United Kingdom
of Great Britain
and Northern
Ireland |
| 14. Colombia | 34. Malaysia | 55. Yemen |
| 15. Cook Islands | 35. Mali | 56. Zambia |
| 16. Costa Rica | 36. Malta | 57. Zimbabwe |
| 17. Croatia | 37. Mauritania | |
| 18. Cyprus | 38. Mauritius | |
| 19. Czech Republic | 39. Monaco | |
| 20. Djibouti | 40. New Zealand | |
| | 41. Nicaragua | |

B. States Parties that have reported that they consider existing laws to be sufficient in the context of Article 9 obligations

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| 1. Algeria | 13. Ireland | 24. Samoa |
| 2. Andorra | 14. Kiribati | 25. Slovakia |
| 3. Argentina | 15. Lesotho | 26. Slovenia |
| 4. Bulgaria | 16. Lithuania | 27. Tajikistan |
| 5. Central African
Republic | 17. Mexico | 28. the former
Yugoslav Republic
of Macedonia |
| 6. Chile | 18. Montenegro | 29. Tunisia |
| 7. Denmark | 19. Netherlands | 30. Ukraine |
| 8. Estonia | 20. Papua New
Guinea | 31. United Republic
of Tanzania |
| 9. Greece | 21. Portugal | 32. Venezuela |
| 10. Guinea-Bissau | 22. Republic of
Moldova | |
| 11. Holy See | 23. Romania | |
| 12. Indonesia | | |

C. States Parties that have not yet reported having either adopted legislation in the context of Article 9 legislation or that they consider existing laws are sufficient

1. Afghanistan
2. Angola
3. Antigua and Barbuda
4. Bahamas
5. Bangladesh
6. Barbados
7. Benin
8. Bhutan
9. Bolivia
10. Botswana
11. Brunei Darussalam
12. Cameroon
13. Cape Verde
14. Comoros
15. Congo
16. Côte d'Ivoire
17. Democratic Republic of the Congo
18. Dominica
19. Dominican Republic
20. Ecuador
21. Equatorial Guinea
22. Eritrea
23. Ethiopia
24. Fiji
25. Gabon
26. Gambia
27. Ghana
28. Grenada
29. Guinea
30. Guyana
31. Haiti
32. Iraq
33. Jamaica
34. Kenya
35. Kuwait
36. Liberia
37. Madagascar
38. Malawi
39. Maldives
40. Mozambique
41. Namibia
42. Nauru
43. Nigeria
44. Niue
45. Palau
46. Panama
47. Paraguay
48. Philippines
49. Qatar
50. Rwanda
51. Saint Kitts and Nevis
52. Saint Lucia
53. San Marino
54. Sao Tome and Principe
55. Serbia
56. Sierra Leone
57. Solomon Islands
58. Sudan
59. Suriname
60. Swaziland
61. Thailand
62. Timor-Leste
63. Togo
64. Turkmenistan
65. Uganda
66. Uruguay
67. Vanuatu

Annex I

AGENDA OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES

As adopted at the first plenary meeting on 24 November 2008

1. Official opening of the meeting.
2. Election of the President.
3. Brief messages delivered by or on behalf of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Jody Williams, the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the President of the Council of the Foundation of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining and the Secretary General of the United Nations.
4. Adoption of the agenda.
5. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
6. Adoption of the budget.
7. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the meeting and of other officers.
8. Confirmation of the Secretary-General of the meeting.
9. Organization of work.
10. General exchange of views.
11. Informal presentation of requests submitted under Article 5 and of the analysis of these requests.
12. Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention:
 - (a) Universalizing the Convention;
 - (b) Destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines;
 - (c) Clearing mined areas;
 - (d) Assisting the victims;
 - (e) Other matters essential for achieving the Convention's aims:
 - (i) Cooperation and assistance;
 - (ii) Transparency and the exchange of information;
 - (iii) Preventing and suppressing prohibited activities and facilitating compliance;
 - (iv) Implementation Support.
13. Consideration of requests submitted under Article 5.

14. Consideration of matters arising from / in the context of reports submitted under Article 7.
15. Consideration of requests submitted under Article 8.
16. Date, duration and location of the Second Review Conference, and matters pertaining to the preparations for the Second Review Conference.
17. Any other business.
18. Consideration and adoption of the final document.
19. Closure of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties.

Annex II

REPORT ON THE PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION, SUBMISSION AND CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS TO ARTICLE 5 DEADLINES, 2007-2008¹

Background

1. At the 2006 Seventh Meeting of the States Parties (7MSP), the States Parties established “a process for the preparation, submission and consideration of requests for extension to Article 5 deadlines.”² This process includes the President and the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs of the Standing Committees jointly preparing an analysis of each. In doing so this group of 17 States Parties (hereafter referred to as the “analysing group”) is tasked, along with requesting States Parties, with cooperating fully to clarify issues and identify needs. In addition, in preparing each analysis, the analysing group in close consultation with the requesting State, should, where appropriate, draw on expert mine clearance, legal and diplomatic advice, using the ISU to provide support. Ultimately, the President, acting on behalf of the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs, is charged with submitting the analyses to the States Parties well before the MSP or Review Conference preceding the requesting State’s deadline.

2. The process agreed to at the 7MSP does not require the President to submit a report to a subsequent Meeting of the States Parties or Review Conference. However, as the process was used for the first time in 2007-2008, it is prudent that the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties documents the effort undertaken, working methods established and lessons that have been learned. It is hoped that future groups of States Parties mandated to analyse requests would benefit from the first year’s experience with the use of application of the process.

Report

3. The 8MSP President’s activities with respect to the process began at the 8MSP when he presented the paper entitled *An orientation to the process concerning Article 5 extension requests*.³ With respect to preparing requests, pursuant to the decisions of the 7MSP, the 8MSP President encouraged requesting States Parties to continue to make use of the expert support provided by the Implementation Support Unit (ISU), to incorporate into their extension requests relevant aspects of their national demining plans and to be pragmatic in using or adapting the voluntary template adopted by the 7MSP.

¹ Submitted by His Royal Highness Prince Mired Raad Al-Husseini of Jordan, President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties

² Final Report of the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties, document APLC/MSP.7/2006/5.

³ Document APLC/MSP.8/2007/INF.1.

4. All 15 States Parties that submitted requests for consideration by the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties (9MSP) received at least a briefing from the ISU on the extensions process. Many, however, benefited further by taking advantage of the ISU's advisory services, including by requesting and receiving a visit or visits by experts and follow-up support. Upon review of the initial information provided by requesting States Parties, the ISU in some instances suggested an outline to organise requests and to adapt the voluntary template in such a way that often a large volume of information could be made as accessible as possible.

5. With respect to submitting requests, in accordance with the decisions of the 7MSP, the President encouraged relevant States Parties to submit preliminary requests in March 2008. On 8 February 2008, with a view to ensuring that requests would be submitted in a timely manner, the President wrote to the States Parties with deadlines in 2009 that had indicated that they will or may need to request an extension to remind them to submit their requests in March. It should be noted that only 7 of the 15 States Parties that submitted requests for consideration by the 9MSP submitted their initial requests in March 2008, with 4 others submitting them soon after. However, 4 requesting States Parties did not submit their requests until some time much later than March 2008.

6. The decisions of the 7MSP state that "the President, upon receipt of an extension request, should inform the States Parties of its lodgment and make it openly available, in keeping with the Convention's practice of transparency." On 4 April, the President wrote to all States Parties to inform them of the requests that had been received and instructed the ISU to make these requests available on the Convention's web site.⁴ The President subsequently kept the States Parties informed of additional requests or revised requests received and ensured that these were available on the Convention's web site.

7. With respect to the responsibility of the President and the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs of the Standing Committees to jointly prepare an analysis of each request, on 11 March 2008, the States Parties mandated to analyse extension requests met principally to discuss working methods. The complete set of conclusions drawn by the analysing group is annexed to this report. Some highlights are as follows:

- (a) It was concluded that the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, with the support of their Co-Rapporteurs, could enhance the efficiency of the process by making an initial determination of the completeness of requests and immediately seeking to obtain additional information that may be necessary for a complete analysis.

⁴ www.apminbanconvention.org

(b) With respect to expertise that the 7MSP decisions indicated the analysing group could draw from, it was understood that expertise could be derived from a variety of sources and in a variety of forms. Concerning this matter, the analysing group called upon the expert advice of the ICBL, the ICRC and the UNDP given the broad scope of these organisations' expertise and concluded that the input provided was extremely useful. In addition, expert input on demining techniques was provided by the GICHD, on land release methods by the GICHD and Norway in its capacity as Coordinator of the Resource Utilization Contact Group, and, by the ICRC with respect to its views on legal matters.

(c) With respect to conflicts of interest, it was concluded that the President would ask members of the analysing group to excuse themselves from the analysis of their own requests or the analysis of a request with which they have a conflict of interest, such as a territorial or sovereignty dispute with the requesting State Party. In this regard, it should be noted that Jordan, Peru and Thailand did not participate in the preparation of the analysis of the request submitted by each and Argentina excused itself from the preparation of the analysis of the request submitted by the United Kingdom.

(d) It was concluded that the analysing group could more effectively structure its work by developing forms or checklists as tools that could assist it in commenting on the completeness and quality of information provided and ensuring that the analysing group gives equal treatment to requests submitted. The analysing group subsequently developed a checklist, which is annexed to this report, that takes into account the provisions of Article 5, paragraph 4 of the Convention and the 7MSP decisions. This checklist served as the basis for analysing group members to structure their input, it ensured that each request was treated in a uniform manner and it provided the basis for the structure of the analyses that were ultimately prepared by the analysing group.

(e) With respect to transparency, it was concluded that working methods agreed to by the analysing group and relevant tools used would be communicated to all States Parties by the President and made available on the Convention's web site. On 4 April 2008, the President sent a complete set of our agreed working methods to the States Parties and on 4 June 2008, the President provided a further update to the meeting of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies.

8. On 29-30 April 2008, the analysing group met to begin discussions on requests received by that time. The intention was to conclude work on as many requests as possible by the end of August 2008 and that by mid-September 2008 work on the remaining requests would be concluded. Ultimately, the group was able to complete its work on only 10 of the 15 requests by the end of September 2008 with work on the final 5 requests not completed until mid-November 2008.

9. The decisions of the 7MSP make it clear that in preparing an analysis, the President and the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs of the Standing Committees and the requesting States Party should cooperate fully. The President underscored this point in the paper he presented to the 8MSP, noting in it his intention to work in close collaboration with requesting States Parties and expressing the view that the analysis of requests should be a cooperative one ultimately leading, in many circumstances, to improved revised requests for extensions.

10. The analysing group sought to ensure that the approach taken by the analysing group with respect to requesting States Parties was one consistent with the Convention's true spirit of cooperation. The chair engaged in a dialogue with all requesting States Parties, writing to seek additional clarifications of various matters, offering advice on ways to improve requests and inviting representatives of all requesting States Parties to an informal discussion with the analysing group. During the week of 2-6 June 2008, representatives of most requesting States Parties, including many national demining directors, met with the analysing group. In addition, the President wrote to requesting States Parties to invite views on analyses prepared by the analysing group. The approach paid off with 14 of the 15 requesting States Parties providing additional clarity with respect to their requests and with several submitting revised and improved requests.

11. Pursuant to a dialogue between the analysing group and requesting States Parties, three requesting States Parties (Chad, Denmark and Zimbabwe) in their final submissions requested only the period of time necessary to assess relevant facts and develop a meaningful forward looking plan based on these facts. The analysing group noted the importance of States Parties that find themselves in such circumstances taking such an approach.

12. In the paper presented to the 8MSP, the President indicated that he would encourage requesting States Parties to ensure that final versions of requests for extensions included a 2-5 page executive summary containing an overview of information necessary for an informed decision on the request to be taken. It was further indicated that, with a view to balancing the need to access information and the need to address the costs which may be associated with translating a large number of requests, the President would ask the 9MSP Executive Secretary to ensure that only the executive summaries of requests are translated in time for the meeting and that the detailed requests would be made available in their original languages. It should be noted that all 15 requesting States Parties indeed did submit brief executive summaries containing an overview of information necessary for an informed decision on the request to be taken at the 9MSP.

13. The working methods of the analysing group included the conclusion drawn by the group that it should aim for consensus in all aspects of the analysis process. It was further understood that should there be differences of views regarding analyses, a variety of methods for taking decisions on analyses and / or for incorporating differing points of view of analysis existed. In total, the analysing group met eight times between 11 March and 10 November 2008.⁵ While the analyses produced by the group may not have been as rigorous as some members desired, ultimately the final products were agreed to by all participating members of the analysing group, thus ensuring that views contained in the analyses represent the points of view of a wide diversity of States Parties from all regions.

⁵ The analysing group met on (1) 11 March 2008, (2) 29-30 April 2008, (3) 15-16 May 2008, (4) 2-6 June 2008, (5) 9-10 July 2008, (6) 28-29 August 2008, (7) 24, 26 and 29 September 2008, and (8) 10 November 2008.

Observations and recommendations

14. The work of the analysing group was greatly aided by the calendar established pursuant to the decisions of the 7MSP, which sees, for instance, that in 2008 requests were received only from those States Parties with deadlines in 2009. It is recommended that Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies continue to update and make available a calendar of time lines for Article 5 related matters.

15. The extension request process resulted in the most comprehensive information ever prepared on the state of implementation by several requesting States Parties. In addition, some requesting States Parties seized on the opportunity presented through an extension request to reinvigorate interest in national demining plan, in large part by demonstrating national ownership and that implementation is possible in a relatively short period of time. It is recommended that States Parties that will need to submit a request at a future date equally seize on the opportunities presented by the extension request process to clearly communicate the state of national implementation and to reinvigorate interest in a collective effort to complete implementation of Article 5.

16. Some of the best requests (i.e., requests that were coherently organised and that were clear and complete in the presentation of facts) were submitted by States Parties that made good use of the services provided by the ISU and / or engaged in an informal dialogue with the President and / or members of the analysing group even before submitting a request. It is recommended that all States Parties that believe they will need to request an extension should make use of the expert support provided by the Implementation Support Unit. It is further recommended that requesting States Parties make use of the suggested outline for preparing a request that has been developed by the ISU, adapting it and the voluntary template agreed to at the 8MSP as relevant according to national circumstances.

17. The challenges faced by the analysing group in 2008 in using a process for the first time were compounded by late requests, by – in one instance – a non-request in that no time had been requested, and, by requests that lacked clarity and contained data discrepancies. It is recommended that requesting States Parties adhere to the March submission date or otherwise inform the President of circumstances that may prevent timely submission. It is further recommended that all States Parties implementing Article 5 should ensure that best practices for the management of mine action information are adhered to in order that, if they should at a later date need to request an extension, all necessary information is available to serve as a factual basis for a national demining plan and a time period to be requested.

18. The commitment required on the part of analysing group members was too great for some. Examining dozens of pages of requests was a heavy burden as was ensuring that delegations were prepared for active participation in hours of meetings. It was a burden that States Parties knowingly accepted, though, when they chose to be, or in some instances vigorously competed to be, Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs. It is therefore recommended that States Parties seeking and accepting the responsibility of being a member of the analysing group should note that a considerable amount of time and effort is required to fulfil this responsibility.

Appendix I to Annex II

**Conclusions on working methods drawn by the States Parties mandated to analyse
Article 5 Extension requests, 11 March 2008**

Pre-analysis

1. It was concluded that the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, with the support of their Co-Rapporteurs, could enhance the efficiency of the process by making initial determination of the completeness of requests and immediately seeking to obtain additional information which may be necessary for a complete analysis.

Expertise

2. Recalling that the 7MSP agreed that “the President, Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs, in close consultation with the requesting State, should, where appropriate, draw on expert mine clearance, legal and diplomatic advice, using the ISU to provide support,” the following was concluded:

3. Expertise could be derived, on a case-by-case basis, from a variety of sources, including, inter alia: the Resource Utilization Contact Group Coordinator, given the Contact Group’s focus on supporting Article 5 implementation; the ICBL and its relevant member organizations; the ICRC; relevant UN agencies, departments and offices; regional organizations; the operations unit of the GICHD; donor States Parties which have supported and will support requesting States Parties, and consultants with relevant expertise.

4. Given their broad scope of expertise, the ICBL and ICRC will be invited, where appropriate, to provide the analysing group with a written critique of requests submitted. These critiques could serve as valuable inputs into the analysis process.

5. The following procedure would be used regarding the acquisition of expert advice:

- (i) The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, working with their Co-Rapporteurs, would develop an initial suggestion to the analysing group of expertise that may be required and the source of such expertise.
- (ii) The analysing group could consider this suggestion, as well as other ideas or input, in order to arrive at a proposed course of action.
- (iii) The President would inform the requesting State Party of the intended course of action and provide the requesting State Party with the opportunity to share any comments or concerns.
- (iv) The President, notwithstanding any grave concerns expressed by the requesting State Party which would need to be considered by the analysing group, could then, in accordance with the decisions of the 7MSP, instruct the ISU to acquire the expertise desired by the analysing group.

Conflicts of interest

6. It was concluded that in order to avoid conflicts of interest, the President would ask members of the analysing group to excuse themselves from the analysis of their own requests or the analysis of a request with which they have a conflict of interest, such as a territorial or sovereignty dispute with the requesting State Party.

Content / form of the analysis

7. Taking into account: (i) that requesting States Parties are obliged, in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 4, to include various elements in an extension request; (ii) that the 7MSP encouraged requesting States Parties both to append their national demining plans to their extension requests, and, to make use, on a voluntary basis, of the template adopted at the 8MSP; and, (iii) that the President and the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs of the Standing Committees, are tasked with “jointly preparing an analysis of the request indicating, inter alia: clarifications of facts sought and received from the requesting State; demining plans for the extension period; resource and assistance needs and gaps,” the following was concluded:

8. The analysing group could more effectively structure its work by developing forms or checklists as tools that could assist it in commenting on the completeness and quality of information provided and ensuring that the analysing group gives equal treatment to requests submitted.

Decision making

9. It was concluded the analysing group should aim for consensus in all aspects of the analysis process. It was understood that should there be differences of views regarding analyses, a variety of methods for taking decisions on analyses and / or for incorporating differing points of view of analysis existed.

Transparency

10. In recalling that the decisions of the 7MSP make mention of “the Convention’s practice of transparency,” it was concluded that working methods agreed to by the analysing group and relevant checklists / templates would be communicated to all States Parties by the President and made available on the Convention’s web site (www.apminebanconvention.org); that the President, when notifying the States Parties of the receipt of requests could extend an open invitation for expressions of interest; and, that the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance could request that the President provide an update on the process at their meeting on 4 June.

Appendix II to Annex II**Article 5 Analysing Group Extension Request Checklist^a**

Requesting State Party: _____

	Relevant Facts in Request	Remarks/Views
Total land to be addressed at entry into force, as defined in Article 2, paragraph 5		
Estimated land remaining to be addressed in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 4.b.i		
Amount of time requested , in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 4.a		
Circumstances which impeded the ability of the requesting state party to fulfil its obligations, in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 4.b.iii		
Annual projections of mined areas to be addressed, in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 4.b.i		

^a Each member of the analysing group should complete a checklist for each request submitted (with the exception of instances when an analyser indicates it has a conflict of interest). Analysers should feel free to use this checklist in a flexible manner, for instance, providing initial observations and views in a narrative format rather than in a tabular format.

	Relevant Facts in Request	Remarks/Views
Methods to be used to render mined areas no longer dangerous, in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 4.b.i and Article 5, paragraph 4.b.ii		
National financial resources required, in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 4.b.ii		
International financial resources required, in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 4.b.ii		
Humanitarian, social, economic and environmental implications of the extension, in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 4.c		
Any other information relevant to the request, in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 4.d		

Conclusions:

--

Annex III**ENSURING THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 4¹**

1. On 1 March 2008, the Convention faced three cases of failure to comply with their obligations to destroy or ensure the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines they own or possess or that are under their jurisdiction or control not later than four years after entry into force of the Convention.
2. The failure to comply with Article 4 presents a serious challenge to all States Parties. Stockpile destruction is essential in order that the Convention fulfils its promise to end the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines for all people for all time. Complying with Article 4 demonstrates full commitment to the Convention's comprehensive ban on antipersonnel mines and helps ensure no future use and no future victims.
3. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction believe due attention must be given to cases of non-compliance and to preventing future instances of non-compliance. In this regard, we recommend the following:
 - (a) Non-compliant States Parties should act in a committed and transparent way, immediately communicating, preferably in a form of a *note verbale* addressed to all States Parties, the reasons, which should be extraordinary, for failing to comply and providing a date and plan to ensure compliance as soon as possible, including an expected completion date. They should commit national resources to fulfill their obligations and, if relevant, actively pursue assistance.
 - (b) In order to prevent or address compliance issues, the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction should hold informal consultations with concerned States Parties, donors and relevant experts. Consultations as a preventative measure should be undertaken well in advance of deadlines to achieve their intended impact.
 - (c) States Parties in the process of implementing Article 4 should communicate to other States Parties, through annual transparency reports, at every meeting of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction and at every meeting of the States Parties, plans to implement Article 4, successively reporting increasing progress that is being made towards the fulfillment of Article 4 obligations.
 - (d) States Parties should use a variety of means to encourage and facilitate, where appropriate, the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines by States Parties concerned, including by engaging States Parties that must implement Article 4 in a dialogue if, one year after entry into force, such States Parties do not have plans to

¹ Proposal presented by Lithuania and Serbia, Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction.

implement Article 4 by their deadlines and if, two years after entry into force, no progress in the destruction of stockpiled mines has been reported.

Annex IV**APPLYING ALL AVAILABLE METHODS TO ACHIEVE THE FULL, EFFICIENT AND EXPEDIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 5¹****Background**

1. More than a decade of efforts to implement Article 5 of the Convention has demonstrated complex challenges associated with identifying the exact boundaries of mined areas. For many States Parties reporting mined areas under their jurisdiction or control, imprecise identification and significant overestimation of the size of mined areas has led to inappropriate allocations of time and resources.
2. Large areas have been targeted for manual or mechanical mine clearance even though they did not or do not contain mines or other explosive hazards. This point was first recorded by the States Parties in the September 2006 Geneva Progress Report where it was noted that “important advances in the understanding of identifying mined areas...suggest that the challenges faced by many States Parties may be less than previously thought and that efforts to fulfil Convention obligations can proceed in a more efficient manner.”
3. At the November 2007 Eighth Meeting of the States Parties (8MSP), a discussion was held on practical ways to overcome challenges in implementing Article 5, including challenges associated with the imprecise and grossly overestimated identification of mined areas. This discussion advanced the points raised in the Geneva Progress Report by highlighting, in the final report of the 8MSP, “the value of States Parties making use of the full range of emerging practical methods to more rapidly release, with a high level of confidence, areas suspected of containing anti-personnel mines.”
4. The wealth of information contained in Article 5 extension requests submitted in early 2008 further indicates challenges associated with the imprecise and grossly overestimated identification of mined areas:
 - (i) Some States Parties have not made use of the full range of actions available to more accurately define suspected hazardous areas and are developing plans for Article 5 implementation that assume that technical surveys and manual or mechanical clearance methods are the only ones that will be used.
 - (ii) Some States Parties only recently have applied the full range of actions available to more accurately define suspected hazardous areas, resulting in several instances in a dramatic increase in the amount of previously suspected hazardous areas released.

¹ Submitted by Norway, Coordinator of the Resource Utilization Contact Group.

- (iii) In some States Parties, the full range of actions to more accurately define suspected hazardous areas have been used for several years, notwithstanding the absence of a national standard or policy.

Applying all available methods to achieve full, efficient and expedient implementation

5. The experience of many States Parties demonstrates that a substantial proportion of what has been reported as “mined areas” are areas that did not or do not contain anti-personnel mines or other explosive hazards and did not or do not require clearance. Three main actions can be undertaken to release land that has been identified and reported as “mined areas” as defined by the Convention:

- (i) Land can be released through non-technical means, such as systematic community liaison, field based data gathering and improved procedures for cross-referencing data and updating databases.
- (ii) Land can be released through technical survey, that is, through a detailed topographical and technical investigation of an area to more precisely identify a smaller area requiring clearance, thus enabling the release of the balance of the area investigated.
- (iii) Land can be released through clearance, that is, physically and systematically processing an area manually or with machines to a specified depth in accordance with existing best practices to ensure the removal and destruction of all mines and other explosive hazards.

6. Such methods can cancel out or reclassify an area previously recorded as a mined area where there is now confidence that the area does not present a risk from mines or other explosive hazards. Changes in the status of previously reported mined areas need to be recorded in relevant databases, reported to other States Parties and the released areas need to be formally handed over to the relevant communities.

7. Regardless of whether a particular area requires non-technical means, technical survey or clearance, national policy or standards consistent with existing best practices should be applied, effective management of data is needed in order to maintain confidence in the decisions being taken and national institutions need to be accountable for the management of the process.

8. Well developed international standards concerning clearance and technical survey have existed for some time. Recently, however, efforts have been made to enhance international standards that apply to the release of land through non-technical means. The guiding principles used for such enhanced international standards and hence the principles that should be taken into account in the development of national policies and standards are the following:

- (i) **A formal, well documented and recorded process for identifying mined areas:** A credible investigation of the presence of mines that features (a) a thorough and well

described methodology ensuring objective assessments, (b) input provided by a sufficient number of credible informants whose names and contact details are recorded, and, (c) quantified survey information, is a necessary precondition for being able to release land without the deployment of technical means.

- (ii) **Well defined and objective criteria for the reclassification of land:** If land is to be reclassified from a “mined area” to an area not deemed dangerous due to the presence or suspected presence of mines, the criteria used needs to be clear and universally understood. Reclassification can be based on qualitative (e.g., measures of confidence in survey information) and quantitative measures.
- (iii) **A high degree of community involvement and acceptance of decision-making:** Local participation should be fully incorporated into the main stages of the process of releasing land in order to render the entire process more accountable, manageable and ultimately cost-effective. Community involvement should include vulnerable groups living in or near suspect areas. A high level of local contributions to major decisions will ensure that land is used appropriately after it has been released.
- (iv) **A formal process of handover of land prior to the release of land:** The involvement of the local communities in the process leading to the release of land should be reinforced by a formal process of handing over land. It should include a detailed description of the survey methodology and the risk assessment. It should be signed by the future users of the land, local community authorities, representatives from the organisation that carried out the assessment and the national authorities.
- (v) **An ongoing monitoring mechanism after the handover has taken place:** Post-release monitoring must be properly planned and agreed between the different parties to help measure the impact land release has on local life and to clarify issues related to liability and land status in case of any subsequent landmine accidents. Should there be accidents in or mines found in released areas, such areas or portions of them may be reclassified as suspected mined areas or confirmed mined areas.
- (vi) **A formal national policy addressing liability issues:** National policies and standards on the release of land should detail the shift of liability from the mine action operator to the national, sub-national or local government or other entity with mine action operators obliged to follow national policies and standards in order to be exempt from liability.
- (vii) **A common set of terminology to be used when describing the process:** Many States Parties use different terminology to broadly describe the same processes. The further development of the UN’s International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) may help provide a more advanced global set of terminology. If terms are used which could be interpreted in different ways these terms either should be clearly defined or not used at all.

Recommendations

9. The States Parties acknowledge that three main actions can be undertaken to assess and, where applicable, to release land that has been previously identified and reported as part of a “mined area”: through non-technical means, technical survey, and clearance.
10. In order to ensure the expedient, efficient and safe release of mined areas, States Parties in the process of implementing Article 5 are encouraged to develop national plans that employ, as required, the full range of methods, in addition to clearance, available to release land.
11. States Parties are encouraged to take all necessary steps to effectively manage information on changes in the status of previously reported mined areas and to communicate to other States Parties and relevant communities within their own countries such changes in status.
12. States Parties preparing Article 5 extension requests are encouraged to incorporate into their requests, in accordance with Article 5.4(d), an indication of how clearance and other methods of land release will be applied in the fulfilment of obligations during the requested extension period.
13. States Parties providing assistance to mine action activities should ensure that the support provided facilitates the application of the full range of actions for reassessing and releasing “mined areas”.
14. Just as many States have established national policies and standards on clearance and technical survey based upon existing best international practices, they are also encouraged to observe and apply, where appropriate, such practices with respect to non-technical land release.
15. In developing national policies or standards on land reassessment and release through non-technical means, States Parties are recommended take into account the principles indicated above.
16. The States Parties acknowledge that land reassessment and release through non-technical means, when undertaken in accordance with high quality national policies and standards that incorporate key principles highlighted in this paper, is not a short-cut to implementing Article 5.1 but rather is a means to more expediently release, with confidence, areas at one time deemed to be “mined areas”.

Annex V**REPORT ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT UNIT,
NOVEMBER 2007 – NOVEMBER 2008****Background**

1. At the Third Meeting of the States Parties (3MSP) in September 2001, the States Parties endorsed the President's Paper on the Establishment of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) and mandated the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) to establish the ISU. The 3MSP also encouraged States Parties in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions in support of the ISU. In addition, the States Parties mandated the President of the 3MSP, in consultation with the Coordinating Committee, to finalise an agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD on the functioning of the ISU. The GICHD's Foundation Council accepted this mandate on 28 September 2001.
2. An agreement on the functioning of the ISU was finalised between the States Parties and the GICHD on 7 November 2001. This agreement indicates that the Director of the GICHD shall submit a written report on the functioning of the ISU to the States Parties and that this report shall cover the period between two Meetings of the States Parties. This report has been prepared to cover the period between the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties (8MSP) and the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties (9MSP).

Activities

3. The Nairobi Action Plan, adopted by the States Parties on 3 December 2004 at the First Review Conference, complemented by the Dead Sea Progress Report, continued to provide the ISU with clear and comprehensive direction regarding the States Parties' priorities. Following the 8MSP, the ISU continued to provide the President, the Co-Chairs, the Contact Group Coordinators and the Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme with thematic food-for-thought to assist them in their pursuit of the priorities identified by the 8MSP. This helped enable the Coordinating Committee to elaborate the general framework for intersessional work in 2008.
4. The ISU provided ongoing support to the President, the Co-Chairs, the Contact Group Coordinators and the Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme in the achievement of the objectives they set for 2008. This involved the provision of advice and support, assisting with preparations for and follow-up from the June 2008 meetings of the Standing Committees, and making recommendations to the Sponsorship Programme's Donors' Group on linking attendance with substantive contributions by sponsored participants.
5. Certain Co-Chairs and Contact Group Coordinators again launched ambitious initiatives and the ISU responded accordingly. This continued to be the case with respect to the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance who sought to build upon the efforts of their

predecessors by assisting the 26 most relevant States Parties in inter-ministerial efforts to enhance victim assistance objective setting and planning. Through project funding provided by Australia, Austria, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland, the ISU was able to retain the position of victim assistance specialist in order to provide support to these States Parties in their inter-ministerial processes of establishing objectives and developing and implementing plans. Some degree of support or advice was offered or provided to each of these States Parties. In addition, 12 of these 26 States Parties received specialised process support visits.

6. The ISU also supported the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance in organising a parallel programme during the June 2008 meetings of the Standing Committees which aimed to make the best possible use of the time dedicated by health, rehabilitation and social services professionals attending the meetings to the work of the Convention. The parallel program stimulated discussion and increased the knowledge of the expert participants on key components of victim assistance with a particular emphasis given, pursuant to the understandings adopted at the First Review Conference, to the place of victim assistance in the broader contexts of disability, health care, social services, and development. Fifteen health, rehabilitation and social services professionals representing their States, along with other experts and landmine survivors took part in this programme.

7. On the basis of project funding provided by Norway, the ISU provided support to the Coordinator of the Resource Utilisation Contact Group in convening a workshop on land release methods, the conclusions of which were contained in the Coordinator's paper submitted to 9MSP.

8. Providing advice and information to individual States Parties on implementation matters continued to be a profound aspect of the ISU's work relative to previous years due to the priority States Parties have placed on the implementation of Article 5 during the period 2005 to 2009 and the decisions of the 7MSP concerning a process related to Article 5 extension requests.

9. The ISU received a large number of requests for advice or support with respect to the mine clearance obligations contained within Article 5. Country visits to provide advice and support were made to the following 10 States Parties that were or are in the process of preparing a request for an extension in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Colombia, Ecuador, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Peru, Tajikistan, Venezuela and Zimbabwe.

10. The ISU provided support to the President, the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs in executing their mandate related to the analysis of requests submitted in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Providing this support absorbed an unexpectedly great amount of the ISU's time in 2008 in part because of the volume of requests received and hence the magnitude of the service required to meet the needs of the President, the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs.

11. The ISU continued to provide substantial support to States Parties in fulfilling their Article 7 transparency reporting obligations. This included advising individual and groups of States Parties on their obligations and ways to fulfil them.

12. The ISU also responded to numerous other requests for implementation support each month in addition to responding to requests for information from States not parties, the media, and interested organizations and individuals. In addition, the ISU fulfilled its traditional role of communicating information about the Convention, its status and operations at regional workshops convened by States Parties or other actors in South East Asia, the Pacific, and Latin America.

13. In 2006 it was recalled that the ISU's mandate states in part that the rationale for the unit is based on the support provided by the ISU being "critical to ensure that all States Parties could continue to have direct responsibility and involvement in the management and direction of the implementation process." On this basis, the ISU continued to support implementation and to address the participation needs of small States Parties. With project funding provided by Australia, the ISU continued to implement Phase 2 of its Small States Strategy in the pursuit of the aims of the Convention in the Pacific. In August 2008 this involved supporting Palau in hosting a sub-regional workshop for states of the North Pacific, offering specific advice on overcoming barriers to accession. This workshop also provided the opportunity for the ISU and other experts to advise the Convention's newest State Party on how to fulfil its obligations under Article 7 and Article 9 of the Convention.

14. In August 2008 an agreement was signed entrusting the ISU with the implementation of the European Union Joint Action on the universalisation and implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. The purpose of the Joint Action is to increase the membership to the Convention, support preparations for the Second Review Conference and assist States Parties in fully implementing the Convention. The Joint Action foresees 6 regional or sub-regional workshops and up to 25 technical assistance visits undertaken in advance of the Second Review Conference.

15. The ISU provided its traditional substantive and organizational support to the President-Designate of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties (9MSP), working closely with the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA). In addition, the ISU provided advice to States Parties with respect to preparations for the Second Review Conference.

16. The ISU continued to collect a large number of pertinent documents for the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Documentation Centre, which is maintained by the ISU as part of its mandate. The Documentation Centre continues to be used by States Parties and other interested actors as an important source of information on the Convention. In response to priorities articulated by some States Parties, the ISU established a comprehensive set of resource materials on victim assistance within the Documentation Centre.

17. In 2008, the ISU continued to receive requests by those with an interest in other issue areas to learn from the experience of implementation support in the context of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. The ISU supported States Parties participating in dialogues on coherence and coordination in the implementation of the international instruments that concern conventional weapons.

Financial arrangements

18. As indicated in the President's Paper on the Establishment of the Implementation Support Unit and the agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD, the GICHD created a Voluntary Trust Fund for activities of the ISU in late 2001. The purpose of this fund is to finance the on-going activities of the ISU, with the States Parties endeavouring to assure the necessary financial resources.

19. In accordance with the agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD, the Coordinating Committee was consulted on the 2008 ISU budget.¹ The 2008 ISU budget was distributed to all States Parties by the President of the 8MSP along with an appeal for voluntary contributions. The budget was revised and reissued in May 2008 to include a new budget line after the ISU was informed that separate donor funding to cover the costs of interpretation at meetings of the Standing Committees was no longer available. The Coordinating Committee, acknowledging that interpretation traditionally provided at meetings of the Standing Committees is indispensable in ensuring effective participation in these meetings, agreed that these costs should be covered using the ISU Voluntary Trust Fund. With this new budget line added, the ISU budget for 2008 totalled CHF 943,500. States Parties have been slow to submit contributions in 2008 with funds received as of 25 September totalling CHF 352,570.

20. At the 7MSP, the States Parties agreed on a process to assist them in considering requests for extensions including: (a) that in preparing "an analysis" of extension requests "the President, Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs, in close consultation with the requesting State, should, where appropriate, draw on expert mine clearance, legal and diplomatic advice, using the ISU to provide support;" and, (b) that all States Parties in a position to do so are encouraged "to provide additional, earmarked funds to the ISU Trust Fund to cover costs related to support the Article 5 extensions process." This aspect was again taken into account in the 2008 budget and in the appeal for financing distributed by the President of the 8MSP. Since the 8MSP, contributions for these purposes, totalling CHF [...] have been received from Canada, the Czech Republic and Norway.

21. In accordance with the agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD, the Voluntary Trust Fund's 2007 financial statement was independently audited by PriceWaterhouseCoopers. The audit indicated that the financial statement of the Voluntary Trust Fund had been properly prepared in accordance with relevant accounting policies and the applicable Swiss legislation. The audited financial statement, which indicated that the 2007 expenditures of the ISU totalled CHF 728,019.65, was forwarded to the President, the Coordinating Committee and contributors to the ISU Trust Fund.

¹ Basic infrastructure costs for the ISU are covered by the GICHD through funds provided by Switzerland and therefore are not included in the ISU budget.

**Contributions to the ISU Voluntary Trust Fund,
1 January 2007 to 25 September 2008**

	Contributions received in 2007 (CHF)	Contributions received in 2008 ^a (CHF)
Albania	1,000.00	1,000.00
Australia	80,104.00	
Austria	89,970.04	55,873.00
Belgium	48,534.53	
Canada	105,593.68	18,936.00
Chile	17,529.66	15,285.00
Cyprus		2,700.00
Czech Republic	58,593.11	67,040.00
Estonia	4,055.51	
Germany	24,228.75	24,299.00
Hungary	10,927.00	
Ireland	24,444.78	
Italy	80,240.00	
Lithuania	10,000.00	
Malta	1,800.00	
Norway	161,525.63	157,558.00
Slovenia	6,740.16	7,907.00
Spain	48,660.06	
Sweden	35,058.00	
Turkey	1,752.82	1,974.00
Total Contributions	810,757.73	352,570.00

^a As of 25 September 2008.

Annex VI

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS
OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES**

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| APLC/MSP.9/2008/1 | Provisional Agenda. Submitted by the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention |
| APLC/MSP.9/2008/2 | Provisional Programme of Work. Submitted by the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention |
| APLC/MSP.9/2008/3 | Estimated Costs for Convening the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction. Note by the Secretariat |
| APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.1 | Achieving the Aims of the Nairobi Action Plan: The Geneva Progress Report 2007-2008. Submitted by the President-Designate of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties |
| APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.2 | Applying All Available Methods to Achieve the Full, Efficient and Expedient Implementation of Article 5. Submitted by Norway, Coordinator of the Resource Utilization Contact Group |
| APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.3 | Report on the Functioning of the Implementation Support Unit, November 2007 – November 2008. Submitted by the Director of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) |
| APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.4 | Comments on the Interpretation of Article 5.5 of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. Submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross |
| APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.5 | Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by Thailand |

- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.6 Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines, in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by Nicaragua
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.7 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Nicaragua for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.8 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Thailand for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.9 Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by Mozambique
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.10 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Mozambique for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.11 Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by Jordan
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.12** Analysis of the Request Submitted by Jordan for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the Co-Rapporteurs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies on Behalf of the States Parties Mandated to Analyse Requests for Extensions

- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.13 Request for Extension of the Time Limit Set in Article 5 to Complete the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines. Summary submitted by Senegal
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.14 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Senegal for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.15 Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by Denmark
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.16 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Denmark for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.17 Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by Croatia
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.18 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Croatia for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.19 Request for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with article 5 of the convention. Submitted by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.20 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Venezuela for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions

- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.21 Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.22 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.23 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Peru for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.24 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Ecuador for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.25 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Yemen for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.26 Analysis of the Request Submitted by United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions

- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.27
and Add.1 Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.28 Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by Zimbabwe
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.29
and Corr.1 Request for Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5. Summary. Submitted by Chad
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.30 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Chad for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.31 Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by Ecuador
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.32 Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by Peru
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.33 Request for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Executive Summary. Submitted by Yemen
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.34 Analysis of the Request Submitted by Zimbabwe for an Extension of the Deadline for Completing the Destruction of Anti-Personnel Mines in Accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by the President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties on behalf of the States Parties mandated to analyse requests for extensions

- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.35 Report on the Process for the Preparation, Submission and Consideration of Requests for Extensions to Article 5 Deadlines, 2007-2008. Submitted by His Royal Highness Prince Mired Raad Al-Hussein of Jordan, President of the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.36 Ensuring the Full Implementation of Article 4. Proposal presented by Lithuania and Serbia (Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction)
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/WP.37 Statement Made During the Assessment of Requests Submitted Under Article 5 of the Convention. Submitted by Argentina
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/INF.1
[ENGLISH/FRENCH/
SPANISH ONLY] List of Participants. Submitted by the Secretariat
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/CRP.1 Draft Final Document
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/MISC.1
[ENGLISH/FRENCH/
SPANISH ONLY] Provisional List of Participants. Submitted by the Secretariat
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/MISC.2
[ENGLISH ONLY] Declaration of Completion of Implementation of Article 5 of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction. Submitted by the Republic of Malawi
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/MISC.3
[ENGLISH ONLY] Ensuring the Full Implementation of Article 4. Proposal presented by Lithuania and Serbia (Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction)
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/MISC.4
[ENGLISH ONLY] Informal Closed Consultations on PFM Mines. Submitted by the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction (SCSD)
- APLC/MSP.9/2008/MISC.5/Rev.1
[ENGLISH ONLY] Revised Summary of Information Provided by States Parties on the Implementation of Article 5 in the Context of Questions posed by the Co-Chairs at the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Risk Education and Mine Action Technologies, as of 26 November 2008. Submitted by Canada and Peru

APLC/MSP.9/2008/MISC.6
[FRANÇAIS SEULEMENT]

Déclaration d'exécution des obligations découlant de l'article 5 de la convention sur l'interdiction de l'emploi, du stockage, de la production et du transfert des mines antipersonnel et sur leur destruction. Présentée par la France

APLC/MSP.9/2008/MISC.7
[ENGLISH ONLY]

Status of Victim Assistance in the Context of the Mine Ban Convention in the 26 Relevant States Parties 2005 – 2008. Submitted by the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration Cambodia and New Zealand
