

9-2001

3rd Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti- Personnel Mine Ban Convention

AP Mine Ban Convention

Follow this and additional works at: <http://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

Convention, AP Mine Ban, "3rd Meeting of the States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention" (2001). *Global CWD Repository*. 82.

<http://commons.lib.jmu.edu/cisr-globalcwd/82>

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.

THIRD 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

APLC/MSP.3/2001/1
10 January 2002

Original: ENGLISH

Third Meeting
Managua, 18-21 September 2001

THIRD 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

FINAL REPORT

The Final Report of the Third 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 four annexes as follows:

- Part I Organization and Work of the Third Meeting
- Part II Declaration of the Third Meeting of the States Parties

Annexes:

- Annex I List of Documents
- Annex II President's Paper on the Establishment of the Implementation Support Unit
- Annex III Final Reports of the Standing Committees
- Annex IV President's Action Programme



PART I

ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF THE THIRD 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 its fifty-fifth session, the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 55/33 V requested the Secretary-General, “in accordance with Article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Third Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention at Managua, from 18 to 21 September 2001, and, on behalf of States Parties and according to Article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Meeting as observers”.

3. To prepare for the Third Meeting, the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, established by the First Meeting of the States Parties, held two meetings, to which all interested States Parties, States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and relevant non-governmental organizations were encouraged to attend.

4. The first meeting of the Standing Committee was held on 8 December 2000. During the meeting, participants considered a number of issues relating to the organization of the Third Meeting, including a draft provisional agenda, a draft programme of work, draft rules of

procedure and provisional estimated costs for convening the Third Meeting. No objections were raised in connection with the proposals made with respect to the draft rules of procedure, draft provisional agenda, draft programme of work and the venue for the Third Meeting, and it was agreed that they, along with all other conference documents with the exception of reports submitted under Article 7 of the Convention, would be finalized in all six languages of the Convention to be put before the Third Meeting. It was also agreed that the record of work of the four Standing Committees would be communicated to the Third Meeting in the form of a five-page report prepared by each Committee.

5. The second meeting of the Standing Committee was held on 11 May 2001. During the meeting, no objections were made with respect to the provisional estimated costs, and it was agreed that they would be put before the Third Meeting.

6. Between the Second and the Third Meetings of the States Parties, the Standing Committees received considerable support from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). States Parties expressed their appreciation for this assistance and the GICHD's contribution to the successful operation of the intersessional work programme. In addition, States Parties recognized that the work of the Standing Committees benefited greatly from the active participation of relevant non-governmental, regional and international organizations. States Parties expressed their gratitude to these organizations for their substantive involvement in the intersessional work programme.

7. The opening of the Third Meeting was preceded by a ceremony at which statements were delivered by the following: Francisco Xavier Aguirre Sacasa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua; Colonel William McDonough with a message of the Secretary-General from the OAS; Jesus Martinez, a landmine survivor from El Salvador, with a message from Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan; Enrique Larenas, father of a landmine survivor in Chile, Juan Carlos Varela, deminer of the Nicaraguan Army and landmine survivor; Pablo Ubilla, President of the National Post Office of Nicaragua; Gema María Peña Navarrete, winner of the organized painting contest; and Arnoldo Aleman, President of the Republic of Nicaragua. In addition, Jonas Patin, an indigenous Nicaraguan and landmine survivor introduced the documentary entitled "Mine victims in Nicaragua" in his native Misquito language. The ceremony served to remind States Parties of the central importance of supporting the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of landmine survivors.

B. Organization of the Third Meeting

8. The Third Meeting was opened on 18 September 2001 by the President of the Second Meeting of the States Parties, Ambassador Steffen Kongstad of Norway. The Third Meeting elected by acclamation Francisco Xavier Aguirre Sacasa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua, as its President in accordance with rule 7 of the draft rules of procedure.

9. At the opening session, a message addressed to the Third Meeting by the Secretary-General of the United Nations was read by Under Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, Jayantha Dhanapala, and a statement was made by Jody Williams, Ambassador for the International Campaign to Ban Landmines.

10. At its first plenary meeting on 18 September 2001, the Third Meeting adopted its agenda as contained in document APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.1. On the same occasion, the Third Meeting adopted its rules of procedure as contained in document APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.3, the estimated costs for convening the Third Meeting as contained in document APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.4, and its programme of work as contained in document APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.2.

11. Also at its first plenary meeting, representatives from Belgium, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Slovakia and Zimbabwe were elected by acclamation as Vice-Presidents of the Third Meeting.

12. The Meeting unanimously confirmed the nomination of Mrs. Bertha Marina Argüello, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua, as the Secretary-General of the Meeting. The Meeting also took note that the Republic of Nicaragua had appointed Mr. Kerry Brinkert as Deputy Secretary-General.

C. Participation in the Third Meeting

13. Sixty-seven States Parties participated in the Meeting: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

14. Six States that ratified the Convention, but for which the Convention had not yet entered into force, 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: Chile, Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Malta, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Sierra Leone.

15. Eleven 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: Algeria, Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Greece, Indonesia, Lithuania, Poland and Sudan.

16. A further 11 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: Belarus, Cuba, Finland, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Morocco, Oman, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

17. Delegation information submitted in accordance with rule 4 of the rules of procedure of the Meeting was received from 92 States mentioned in paragraphs 13 to 16 above.

18. The Meeting accepted the delegation information of the representatives of all of the States mentioned in paragraphs 13 to 16 above.

19. 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; International Campaign to Ban Landmines; International Committee of the Red Cross; International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; Organization of American States; Pan American Health Organization; United Nations Organization: United Nations Secretariat (Department of Peace-Keeping Operations/United Nations Mines Action Service (UNMAS), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), World Food Programme (WFP), World Bank and World Health Organization (WHO). In accordance with rule 1.4, the following organizations attended the Meeting as observers on the invitation of the Meeting: Asociación de Asistencia Técnica en Educación y Discapacidad (ASCATED/UNICEF); Association of Free Children from Landmines in Japan; Emergency, Life Support for Civilian War Victims; Instituto de Ecología Política; Instituto Uruguayo para el Desarrollo; International Peace Research Institute, Oslo (PRIO); Junta Interamericana de Defensa; Swedish Fellowship for Reconciliation. Civil Society Nicaragua: Acción Médica Cristiana, CENAPRORTO, Centro de Estudios Estratégicos de Nicaragua (CEEN), Centro de Estudios Internacionales (CEI), Centro de Información y Servicios de Asesoría en Salud (CISAS), Centro Inter-Eclesial de Estudio Tecnológico y Sociales (CIEETS), Centro Nicaraguense de Derechos Humanos (CENIDH), Coalición para el desminado humanitario, Comité Internacional de Solidaridad con los Pueblos (CIS), Coordinador Civil para la Emergencia y la Reconstrucción, Federación de Coordinadora de Organismos por la Rehabilitación e Integración (FECONORI), Fundación M. Morales, Fundación Participación y Desarrollo (PARDES), Marshall Legacy and Walking Unidos.

20. A list of all delegations to the Third Meeting is contained in document APLC/MSP.3/2001/INF/7.

D. Work of the Third Meeting

21. The Third Meeting held seven plenary meetings from 18 to 21 September 2001.

22. The second, third and fourth plenary meetings were devoted to the general exchange of views under agenda item 10. Delegations of 39 States Parties, 12 observer States and 9 observer organizations made statements in the general exchange of views, including rights of reply.

23. At the fifth plenary meeting, on 20 September 2001, the Meeting reviewed the general status and operation of the Convention, expressing satisfaction that 120 States have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention, that 30 States Parties have completed destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines and a further 17 States Parties are in the process of stockpile destruction. The Meeting also expressed that the new international norm established by the Convention is taking hold as demonstrated by the behaviour of many States not parties to the Convention. The Meeting also expressed satisfaction that efforts to implement the Convention are

making a difference, with considerable areas of mined land having been cleared over the past year, with casualty rates having been reduced in several of the world's most mine-affected States, and with more and better efforts being undertaken to assist landmine victims.

24. At the fifth plenary meeting, on 20 September 2001, the Meeting considered the submission of requests under Article 5 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 Third Meeting. The Meeting took note of this.

25. At the same plenary, 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 Third Meeting. The Meeting took note of this.

26. In addition, within the framework of the sixth and seventh plenary meetings, the Meeting held informal consultations on international cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6 on the following topics: mine clearance and related technologies; victim assistance, socio-economic reintegration and mine awareness; and the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines. These consultations involved a review of the work of the relevant Standing Committees, as recorded in their reports contained in Annex III, with a focus on the actions recommended by the Committees.

E. Decisions and recommendations

27. At its fifth plenary meeting, on 20 September 2001, the Meeting considered matters arising from and in the context of reports to be submitted under Article 7, including matters pertaining to the reporting process. States Parties expressed their continued satisfaction with the technical ways and means of circulating reports as adopted at the First Meeting and as amended at the Second Meeting. States Parties encouraged the submission of reports electronically and, when submitting an annual update, the highlighting of changes in relation to earlier reports. In addition, States Parties recognized and expressed their appreciation for the efforts of Belgium and the non-governmental organization VERTIC to develop and distribute an Article 7 reporting guide. States Parties also encouraged the use of optional Form J, especially for matters such as victim assistance programmes and mine action funding.

28. Further to the recommendations made by the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention, the Meeting recognized the continuing importance of the intersessional work programme. States Parties accepted the minor change to the structure of the intersessional work programme with the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance and Related Technologies becoming the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Awareness and Mine Action Technologies and the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance, Socio-Economic Reintegration and Mine Awareness becoming the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration. In addition, pursuant to further consultations the following States Parties were identified as the Committee Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs until the end of the 4th Meeting of the States Parties:

- Mine Clearance, Mine Awareness and Mine Action Technologies: Germany and Yemen (Co-Chairs); Belgium and Kenya (Co-Rapporteurs);
- Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration: Canada and Honduras (Co-Chairs); Colombia and France (Co-Rapporteurs);
- Stockpile Destruction: Australia and Croatia (Co-Chairs); Romania and Switzerland (Co-Rapporteurs);
- General Status and Operation of the Convention: Norway and Thailand (Co-Chairs); Austria and Peru (Co-Rapporteurs).

29. States Parties recognized the value and importance of the Coordinating Committee in the effective functioning and implementation of the Convention and requested that the Coordinating Committee consider further improvements in the format, timing and work of the Standing Committees in order to ensure the identification of concrete and practical outcomes. States Parties agreed that the President, as chairperson of the Coordinating Committee, would report on its functioning to the intersessional meetings and also to the annual meetings of States Parties.

30. The Meeting also noted the work undertaken by interested States Parties through the establishment of a sponsorship programme had helped to ensure more widespread representation at meetings of the Convention.

31. States Parties endorsed, and expressed satisfaction with, the work of the Standing Committees, warmly welcoming the reports of the Standing Committees, as contained in Annex III. The Meeting was in general agreement with the recommendations made by the Standing Committees and urged States Parties and all other relevant parties, where appropriate, to act with urgency on these recommendations.

32. At its final plenary meeting, on 21 September 2001, the Meeting agreed that the 4th Meeting of the States Parties would be held from 16 to 20 September 2002 in Geneva, Switzerland, and nominated Ambassador Jean Lint of Belgium as President of the Fourth Meeting of States Parties.

33. States Parties endorsed the President's Paper on the Establishment of an Implementation Support Unit, as contained in Annex II to this report. States Parties warmly welcomed the establishment, within the GICHD, of an Implementation Support Unit to further enhance the operation and the implementation of the Convention. States Parties expressed their appreciation to the GICHD for its cooperation in the establishment of this unit, encouraged States in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions in support of the unit and mandated the President of the Third Meeting, in consultation with the Coordinating Committee, to finalise an agreement with the GICHD on the functioning of the unit.

34. At the same plenary, the Meeting adopted the Declaration of the Third Meeting of the States Parties, which is contained in Part II of this report. In addition, the Meeting warmly welcomed the President's Action Programme, contained in Annex IV, as a practical means of facilitating implementation of the Convention in accordance with the recommendations made by the Standing Committees.

35. The Meeting took note of the Statement by Francisco X. Aguirre-Sacasa, President of the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Ottawa Convention regarding terrorist attacks on the United States of America.

F. Documentation

36. A list of documents of the Third Meeting is contained in Annex I to this report.

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

37. At its seventh and final plenary meeting, on 21 September 2001, the Meeting adopted its draft Final Report, contained in document APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.7.

PART II

DECLARATION OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES

1. We, the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, along with other States, international organizations and institutions and non-governmental organizations, gathered in Managua, Nicaragua, reaffirm our unwavering commitment both to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines and to addressing the insidious and inhumane effects of these weapons.
2. Meeting in Nicaragua, one of the most mine-affected countries in the Americas, we are witness to the devastating effects of this weapon on individuals and their communities. We are also witness to the importance of our work in addressing the problems faced by the Nicaraguan people, and countless others in countries around the world. We are reminded of the long journey ahead towards a mine-free world, as well as the significant steps already secured to reach our goal.
3. We celebrate the growing support for the Convention, ratified or acceded to by 120 States. With an additional 21 countries having signed, but not yet ratified the Convention, the number of States Parties and signatories now totals 141, including more than 40 mine-affected States. We call upon those that have not done so, to ratify or accede to the Convention. We also call upon all States in the process of formally accepting the obligations of the Convention, to provisionally apply the terms of the Convention.
4. We recognize that the new international norm established by the Convention is being demonstrated by the successful record of implementation of the Convention, including the conduct of many States not party to the Convention respecting the provisions therein. This includes the complete destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines in 30 countries, with 17 States Parties in the process of destroying stockpiles. Furthermore, approximately 220 million US\$ has been allocated by donors over the past year to address the global landmine problem, in addition to the resources being allocated by mine-affected countries themselves.
5. We are pleased that over the past year, a considerable amount of land was cleared of anti-personnel mines, that casualty rates in several of the world's most mine-affected States have decreased, that landmine victim assistance has improved, and that our cooperative efforts continue to contribute to this progress.
6. While celebrating the success of the Convention, we remain deeply concerned that anti-personnel mines continue to kill, maim and threaten the lives of countless innocent people each day, that the terror of mines prevents individuals from reclaiming their lives and that the lasting impact of these weapons denies communities the opportunity to rebuild long after conflicts have ended.
7. We deplore any use of anti-personnel mines. Such acts are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention and exacerbate the humanitarian problems already caused by the

use of these weapons. We urge all those who continue to use, develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile, retain and/or transfer anti-personnel landmines, to cease immediately and to join us in the task of eradicating these weapons.

8. We expect those States, which have declared their commitment to the object and purpose of the Convention and which continue to use anti-personnel mines, to recognize that this is a clear violation of their solemn commitment. We call upon all States concerned to respect their commitments.

9. Recognizing the need to secure full compliance with all obligations of the Convention, we reaffirm our commitment to effectively implement the Convention and to comply fully with its provisions. We do so in the spirit of cooperation and collaboration that has characterized this process. In this context, we recall that the four-year maximum time period for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines is rapidly approaching for many States Parties. We also recall that as soon as possible, but not later than ten years after the entry into force of this Convention, each State party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control. We encourage national, regional and international initiatives aimed at fulfilling these obligations.

10. We call upon all governments and people everywhere to join in the common task to meet the enormous challenges of mine action, including victim assistance, to provide the technical and financial assistance required, and, where appropriate, to integrate these efforts into development planning and programming. As States Parties bound to the eradication of anti-personnel mines, we reiterate that assistance and cooperation for practical mine action will flow primarily to those that have forsworn the use of these weapons forever through adherence to, implementation of, and compliance with the Convention.

11. We recognize that to achieve the promise of this unique and important humanitarian instrument, we must continue working tirelessly in all parts of the world to end the use of anti-personnel mines, to destroy stockpiles, to cease development, production and transfers of these weapons, to clear mined areas to free land from its deadly bondage, to assist victims to reclaim their lives with dignity and to prevent new victims.

12. We also recognize that progress to free the world from anti-personnel mines would be promoted by the commitment by non-State actors to cease and renounce their use in line with the international norm established by this Convention.

13. We warmly welcome the substantial progress made during the intersessional work programme. This programme continues to focus and advance the international community's mine action efforts, it greatly assists in our collective aim to implement the Convention and it provides a forum for mine-affected and other States to share experiences, acquire knowledge and enhance efforts to implement the Convention at the national level. We express our satisfaction that the intersessional work programme has been carried out in the Convention's tradition of partnership, dialogue, openness and practical cooperation. We welcome the increased participation of mine-affected States in the intersessional work and the valuable contribution of the Sponsorship Programme.

14. Recognizing the importance of the challenge to reach the goal set by the Americas to convert the “Western Hemisphere into an anti-personnel landmine free zone” as soon as possible, which is a determining factor in the efforts to make the Convention both universal and fully operative, achieving this goal will be an example to the world of the Convention’s effectiveness and an inspiration for other affected regions.

15. To further enhance the intersessional process, we must build upon its accomplishments, strengthen its outcomes and focus on providing States and other relevant international actors with the tools required to carry out the promise of the Convention. We continue to encourage the active participation of mine-affected and other interested States, as well as other relevant actors in the Intersessional Work Programme.

16. We acknowledge the positive work of the Coordinating Committee tasked with the coordination of the intersessional work programme, and its role in the strengthening of the intersessional process.

17. We call upon the States Parties to continue participating in the work of the Standing Committees established by the meetings of the States Parties to the Convention.

18. We express our gratitude to the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and other relevant non-governmental organizations, to regional and international organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, for their important and substantive contribution to the intersessional process and to the overall implementation and consolidation of the Convention. We also thank all those agencies involved in mine clearance, mine awareness, victim assistance, stockpile destruction and other efforts to this end.

19. We thank the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining for its essential support and its commitment to enhance its support to the intersessional process through the establishment of an implementation unit.

20. In reflecting upon our progress and accomplishments, and in considering the work that lies ahead, we reconfirm our conviction to make anti-personnel mines objects of the past, our obligation to assist those who have fallen victim to this terror, and our shared responsibility to the memories of those whose lives have been lost as a result of the use of these weapons, including those killed as a result of their dedication to helping others by clearing mined areas or providing humanitarian assistance.

ANNEX I

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.1	Draft provisional agenda
APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.2	Draft programme of work
APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.3	Draft rules of procedure
APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.4	Estimated costs for convening the Third 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
APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.5/Rev.1	Draft Managua Declaration
APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.6	President's Paper on the Establishment of the Implementation Support Unit
APLC/MSP.3/2001/L.7	Draft final report of the Third 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
APLC/MSP.3/2001/SC1/1	Report of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance and related Technologies
APLC/MSP.3/2001/SC2/1	Report of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance, Socio-Economic Reintegration and Mine Awareness
APLC/MSP.3/2001/SC3/1	Report of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction
APLC/MSP.3/2001/SC4/1	Report of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention
APLC/MSP.3/2001/INF/1	Reporting guide under Article 7 (VERTIC)
APLC/MSP.3/2001/INF/2	Summary of Article 7 Reports
APLC/MSP.3/2001/INF/3	ICRC report on anti-vehicle mines

APLC/MSP.3/2001/INF/4	Key excerpts from INF/3 report
APLC/MSP.3/2001/INF/4/Corr.1	Key excerpts from INF/3 report
APLC/MSP.3/2001/INF/5	Information Kit on the Development of National Legislation to implement the Convention
APLC/MSP.3/2001/MISC/1	Provisional list of participants
APLC/MSP.3/2001/INF/6	President's Statement on 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States of America
APLC/MSP.3/2001/INF/7	List of participants

ANNEX II

PRESIDENT'S PAPER ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT UNIT

Purpose and scope of this paper

This paper sets out the background to, and includes a proposal for the establishment of an Implementation Support Unit (ISU) as part of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD). This proposal, with its mandate to the GICHD for the establishment of the ISU, is being presented for the approval of States Parties.

Background

The Intersessional Programme of Work (ISP) was established by the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Treaty (Maputo, 1999). Since then, it has evolved into a very useful and critical element supporting the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines.

The success of the ISP has been founded on the work of a wide number of States Parties, as well as non-governmental organizations and international organizations, which have dedicated financial and personnel resources to supporting the implementation of the Convention; a particular weight has been absorbed by those States Parties representatives in Geneva who have served as Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs of the Committees.

In this regard, critical to the success of the ISP has been the contribution of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining. At that same time that States Parties agreed to the creation of the ISP, they also accepted the offer of the GICHD to provide administrative and logistical resources to assist the Programme. After the establishment of the Coordinating Committee (CC) during the Second Meeting of the States Parties (Geneva, 2000), the GICHD also provided assistance for the CC meetings. This assistance has been essential to ensuring the effectiveness and organization of the Intersessional Meetings, as well as the work of the Coordinating Committee.

We are now completing our second full year of ISP operations, and some lessons have been derived from the experience to date. Most importantly for the purpose of this discussion, it has become clear that the extent of our future success and sustainability of the process will hinge on ensuring adequate, but limited, continuing dedicated support for States Parties related to the ISP and implementation of the Convention.

Discussions to date

A paper entitled "Implementation Support for the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-personnel Mines" was circulated during the Intersessional Week in May 2001. This paper noted

the points above and proposed the establishment of a small unit, in accordance with the mandate of States Parties, that would further enhance the operations of the implementation process and facilitate participation of all States Parties.

The Peruvian Co-Chair of the Standing Committee for Mine Clearance and Related Technologies addressed the issue during the Meeting of the Standing Committee on General Status and Operation of the Convention, urging the States Parties to take action to enhance the processes supporting the Treaty, including the Intersessional Programme of Work.

Such support was noted to be critical to ensure that all States Parties could continue to have direct responsibility and involvement in the management and direction of the implementation process. He noted that currently, the representatives of States Parties face significant personal burdens when taking on positions as Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs, and assistance is needed for them to more effectively meet the obligations of these positions.

By providing a more focused basis of support, by permitting broader and more effective participation of States Parties, and by relieving Parties of administrative and routine functions, a small dedicated support unit should enable a more efficient allocation of resources while contributing to the effective implementation of the Convention.

The proposal was made that the GICHD could be the appropriate entity through which to provide this enhanced support as this would build on existing efforts and require only a slight increase in staff and resources. The incremental resources could be funded on a voluntary basis by willing States Parties with the support of the GICHD.

This initiative was warmly welcomed and received wide expressions of support from participants at the SC Meeting. It was stressed that this support unit should be accountable to the States Parties through the Coordinating Committee, and should optimize the use of resources.

Since then, the Coordinating Committee has met several times and developed further the cooperation with the GICHD. The concept of the Support Unit is set out below in terms of the proposed mandate and duties of the Unit, management approach, and general financing issues:

A. Mandate to the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)

States Parties mandate the GICHD to establish an Implementation Support Unit to take care of issues related to the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-personnel Mines in accordance with the duties approved by States Parties.

The services GICHD provides to support the Mine Ban Treaty will include:

- preparing and supporting meetings of the Standing Committees and the Coordinating Committee, including writing summaries and facilitating follow-up activity;
- providing independent professional advice and assistance to the Coordinating Committee;
- establishing a documentation and resource database facility (on the Ottawa Process, Oslo - Diplomatic Conference, Meetings of State Parties, SCEs, SCs and the CC).

B. Duties of the Implementation Support Unit

The duties of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) as part of the GICHD are the following:

Coordinating Committee (CC) meetings:

- Providing basic secretarial support, sending out notices of meetings, arranging meeting rooms, note taking, etc.
- Administrative and other follow-up to CC meeting decisions and provision of advice, on request, to the President and CC Members on technical and institutional issues (interaction, coordination and synergy with other organizations, retrieval of data on practices, etc).

Current President and incoming President of the Meeting of States Parties:

- Providing support across all facets of the President's duties. This can include advice on technical and other issues, preparation of CC meetings, providing back-up and support for all liaison/interaction with States Parties, the ICBL, ICRC, the UN and other international organizations and agencies as well as media and communication support.

Standing Committees (SC)

- Providing basic secretarial support – sending out notices of meetings, arranging meeting rooms, note taking, etc.
- Providing advice, support and assistance, on request, to Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs.¹
- Administrative follow-up to SC meeting decisions and provision of advice, on request, to the President and SC Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs, on technical and institutional issues.

¹ This is particularly relevant in supporting mine-affected/developing countries as well as other small delegations in their roles as some countries do not have representation in Geneva or may not be able to place as much staff and time on the issue as may be required.

Communication and liaison

- Providing the support to ensure timely and consistent communication about the implementation process to all actors. This would include the preparation of media statements, organization of media briefings, preparation of briefing notes etc., and any communication that may be necessary for the current or incoming President to make.
- Providing back-up and support for all liaison/interaction with States Parties, the ICBL, ICRC, the UN, and other international organizations and agencies.
- Compiling contact lists etc., of actors involved in or interacting with the implementation of the Convention and keeping liaison channels active. This could include providing support to actors participating in the Intersessional Work, e.g., providing the public relations aspects of welcoming speakers, playing a coordination/information meeting place role as a one-stop location.
- Ensuring that the GICHD web site contains the latest information on the implementation process.

Sponsorship Programme

- Providing assistance in administrating the sponsorship programme.²

Budgeting and planning

- Compiling the additional budget needed by the GICHD for the Implementation Support Unit as well as the planning for the years ahead based on the projection and analysis of Intersessional Work and other aspects related to implementation.

Documentation

- Collecting, collating, storing and retrieving documentation on the Convention and its implementation.³

C. Management of the Unit

The Director of the GICHD will be accountable to the States Parties for the work of the ISU and will submit an annual report on its functioning.

² This would be a continuation of the existing sponsorship programme, funded by donors, and which has thus far been administrated by the GICHD.

³ There is currently no comprehensive collection of documents on the Ottawa Process, the Oslo Diplomatic Conference, Meetings of States Parties, SCEs, SCs, etc. This complicates any research that could be necessary in the implementation process as well as in preparation for SCs and Meetings of States Parties. Currently most of this information is collected in pockets in different countries and the intention would be to provide an accessible place to house the material.

The ISU will operate under the Director of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining according to Terms of Reference to be agreed in accordance with the mandate of States Parties. These Terms of Reference will be developed and agreed between the President, in consultation with the Coordinating Committee, and the GICHD. The ISU will therefore be a part of the GICHD, receiving administrative, technical and logistical support and operating under the financial and administrative supervision of the Director.

Between Meetings of States Parties, the ISU will, in the performance of its substantive duties on implementation issues, receive direction from and support the work of the Coordinating Committee, ensuring ongoing input from States Parties into the work of the ISU. The Director of the GICHD, or a representative, shall participate as an observer at meetings of the Coordinating Committee to ensure effective and close communications and coordination.

D. Financing arrangements

To finance the activities a Fund for voluntary contributions shall be established. The annual budget will be established by mutual agreement between the President/Coordinating Committee and the Director of GICHD.

States Parties will endeavour to assure the necessary financial resources. GICHD will assist in this effort.

An annual financial report shall be submitted to the President/Coordinating Committee and to all donors. To assure transparency, the financial report shall be made available, upon request, to any State Party, interested institution and/or person.

The Fund shall be audited by an independent auditing company on an annual basis. The auditing report shall be forwarded to the President, Coordinating Committee and to donors.

Initially, funds will be sought to support the staffing of one officer and one support staff for the Unit. An additional staff member may be added later as the workload evolves and as funds permit. Recruitment of staff would be the responsibility of GICHD in close consultation with the Coordinating Committee. To maintain the independence of the Implementation Support Unit, its staffing will not include seconded personnel.

Next steps

If States Parties agree, the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining is hereby mandated to proceed with the establishment of the Implementation Support Unit in accordance with this proposal and the President is mandated to finalize an agreement with the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining – in consultation with the Coordinating Committee – in accordance with the mandate and proposal hereby approved by States Parties.

ANNEX III

INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 6

Report of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance and Related Technologies to the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention

I. Introduction

1. The Standing Committee (SC) on Mine Clearance and Related Technologies, established in accordance with the decisions and recommendations of the First Meeting of States Parties (FMSP) and the Second Meeting of States Parties (SMSP), met in Geneva from 5 to 6 December 2000 and from 8 to 9 May 2001.
2. At the SMSP it was agreed, in accordance with paragraph 28 of the Final Report, that Netherlands and Peru would serve as Co-Chairs of the SC, with Germany and Yemen serving as Co-Rapporteurs of the merged Committee on Mine Clearance and Related Technologies.
3. Representatives of about 80 States, the European Commission, the United Nations, the Organization of American States, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and of numerous other relevant organizations were registered as participants in either or both of the two meetings.
4. The meetings of the SC received administrative support from the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD).
5. Interpretation into French and Spanish was provided during a half-day session of the second meeting.

II. Matters reviewed by the Standing Committee

6. The SC considered progress in the review and revision of the international standards for humanitarian mine clearance (IMAS), undertaken by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) with the assistance of the GICHD. The first draft of the IMAS was finished and was circulated among interested stakeholders. It is also available on CD and on the GICHD website. A discussion took place among all participants on the importance and utility of the revised standards. The SC took note of comments by the ICBL Mine Action Working Group (MAWG) on possible implications of the IMAS, *inter alia*, additional costs involved that could impose management challenges on the UN Mine Action Centres (MACs) and other mine action programmes.

7. The Study on the Use of Socio-Economic Analysis in Planning and Evaluating Mine Action – whose progress has been followed since the first intersessional year – was released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This study was prepared by the GICHD for UNDP.

8. The SC received progress reports on the Landmine Impact Surveys (formerly known as Level 1 Surveys) recently undertaken by the Survey Action Center (SAC) – in Yemen and Chad – and on the planning for new surveys. Considerable support was expressed for these surveys, which are viewed as a positive tool for Mine Action.

9. The SC also received reports by Handicap International/ICBL-MAWG's presentation on Conducive Operating Environment for Mine Action and the German Initiative to Ban Landmines on guidelines and principles for Mine Action. A presentation was made of the project "Assistance to Mine Affected Communities" (AMAC) by the International Peace Research Institute (PRIO) of Oslo. Experiences shared by Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) NGOs showed that the involvement of the affected communities in Mine Action operations is crucial to their success.

10. The Organization of American States (OAS) presented how Mine Action is undertaken at the regional level in the Americas. The SC considered the regional approach as one that could be very positive for Mine Action activities.

11. UNMAS presented an update on their database on Mine Action Investments as well of the UN Assistance Programme comprising the Portfolio on Mine Action Projects, consolidated appeal processes (CAP), country/programme specific appeals, round table meetings, ongoing liaison and the voluntary financial contributions, including the Voluntary Trust Fund.

12. ICBL presented their Compendium Document of NGO projects.

13. The SC took note of valuable information on the coordination and prioritization process that could be obtained from tools developed both by HMA NGOs and the UN – such as those indicated in the previous paragraphs.

14. The SC received reports on the progress made in the development of the International Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) by the GICHD, including the training programmes already carried out in different countries.

15. The SC was updated on efforts made in national capacity building, like the Management Training Programme of Cranfield University.

16. The SC was briefed on some States Parties presentations on the mine problem in their countries and the activities undertaken or in the planning stages for addressing the problem (Yemen, Chad, Peru).

17. On technologies several presentations were made from different sectors – including Research and Development (R&D) – and an intensive forum-like discussion took place at the SC during its second meeting (May 2001). The need to match technologies with needs from the field was a constant issue of discussion. HMA operators emphasized the need for technologies that are appropriate, affordable, reliable, sustainable and available in the near, rather than far, future, given the ten-year time-frame for clearance of mined areas as required by the Convention. HMA operators are not against R&D, but again emphasized the urgency to clear mined areas and to support and improve existing proven methods of clearance.

III. Actions taken related to the development of specific tools and instruments to assist in implementing the Convention

18. With the assistance of the GICHD, UNMAS is about to finish the final version of the new IMAS by the summer of 2001. Regional workshops are taking place to familiarize countries with IMAS. GICHD and UNMAS received some inputs from countries (Canada and Peru).

19. Databases both from UNMAS and ICBL continue to be updated, as its utility continues to be expressed.

20. IMAS will be translated into UN languages during 2002 after their adoption by the General Assembly in 2001.

21. IMSMA is being implemented successfully in more countries. The IMSMA project contemplates the development of the field and global modules, translations into different languages (first targets: French, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian and Arabic) – beginning in the summer of 2001, along with its deployment and training.

22. The SC noted that the *Landmine Monitor* would issue its third report in time for the Third Meeting of States Parties (TMSP), and that funding had been requested to complete the report.

23. The GICHD has launched a new version of its website with extensive information on the work done by the Intersessional Work Programme and its Standing Committees.

IV. Action taken or in process to assist in the implementation of the Convention

24. The Survey Action Center (SAC) is undertaking several Landmine Impact Surveys and is planning to undertake several others in coordination with UNMAS.

25. The completion of a handbook on Socio-Economic Guidelines, based on the UNMAS study on socio-economic analysis.

26. Cranfield University held their first course for senior Mine Action managers in July-September 2000. Other courses had been held afterwards.

27. UN will prepare a five-year strategic plan for Mine Action, comprising the different pillars of Mine Action (advocacy, mine awareness, victim assistance, mine clearance and stockpile destruction).

28. The recently established Integrated Test and Evaluation Programme (ITEP) could start providing independent, scientific and unbiased assistance in the testing and evaluation on technologies.

V. Recommendations made by the Standing Committee

29. Further and wider consultation on the IMAS review process is needed to ensure their applicability.

30. The IMAS shall take into consideration inputs from the regional workshops – undertaken or planned – on this matter.

31. The new IMAS must be included in training programmes.

32. All stakeholders shall examine and evaluate the IMAS and suggest improvements.

33. In order to disseminate the IMAS it was highly recommended to translate them into different languages.

34. The SC recommended the dissemination of the Study on the Use of Socio-Economic Analysis in Planning and Evaluating Mine Action, in particular of its handbook, which should be translated into different languages.

35. To improve the involvement of mine-affected communities in the planning and implementation of Mine Action operations.

36. Stakeholders must contribute to national capacity building – including training and the managerial level – which is a prerequisite for the success of any Mine Action programme.

37. National Landmine Impact Surveys (former Level 1 Surveys) to continue, in order to have a good assessment of the problem and needs for Mine Action.

38. The IMSMA project to continue developing its modules and activities, especially the training modules.

39. To keep updating information tools (GICHD, UNMAS, ICBL, etc.) and make them available by Internet and other means.
40. The UN to coordinate with stakeholders in the preparation of the upcoming five-year strategic plan for Mine Action.
41. States Parties to present during the next intersessional year their overviews of the mine problem on their countries and the strategies, programmes, projects to address the problem.
42. Elaboration of a new approach for technologies for Mine Action, which will require closer integration between mine clearance and research and development (R&D) and R&D must preferably be driven by demand from the field (bottom-up approach).
43. Demand for simple equipment and/or adaptation of simple technology that is useable. Technologies shall take into consideration four elements: safety, productivity, cost-effectiveness and sustainability.
44. To consider in the next intersessional year proposals and ideas submitted this year by participants on how to achieve an adequate coordination for the development of technologies for Mine Action, such as the designation of a national focal point for technology issues.
45. Request the ITEP Secretariat to start the testing and evaluation of technologies for Mine Action and share their experiences.
46. To consider the development of mechanisms to ensure the effective implementation of Article 6 of the Convention (transfer of technology and assistance).
47. To prepare a more sustained and substantive agenda of the SC for the next intersessional year.

VI. Reference to supporting documents

48. Draft Revised IMAS. Information can be found on the GICHD website (www.gichd.ch). Text of the International Standards can be found on the following website: www.mineclearancestandards.org.
49. UNDP Study of Socio Economic Approaches to Mine Action (available on the UNMAS website).
50. The yearly reports of the *Landmine Monitor* can be found on the ICBL *Landmine Monitor* website: www.icbl.org/lm/.

51. The ICBL website (www.icbl.org) provides a large amount of information regarding the work of the intersessional SCs and its documents, including information sheets and intersessional updates. There is also information regarding the ICBL Mine Action Working Group, the Bad Honnef Guidelines, the Portfolio of Mine-related projects and the study on Building a Conducive Environment for Mine Action.
52. The UN Portfolio of Mine-related projects is found on the UNMAS website (www.un.org/Depts/dpko/mine/index.html).
53. The UN Mine Action Investments is on the following website: [www.webapps.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/mai/frameset.asp](http://www.webapps.dfaits-maeci.gc.ca/mai/frameset.asp)) or available through the UNMAS website.
54. The reports and other documents relating to the two meetings of the SC in December 2000 and May 2001 may be found on the website of the GICHD.
55. Information on IMSMA may be found on GICHD website.

Report of the Standing Committee on
Victim Assistance, Socio-Economic Reintegration
and Mine Awareness to the Third Meeting of
the States Parties to the Convention

I. Introduction

1. The Standing Committee on Victim Assistance, Socio-Economic Reintegration and Mine Awareness, established in accordance with the decisions and recommendations of the 3-7 May 1999 First Meeting of the States Parties (FMSP) and the 11-15 September 2000 Second Meeting of the States Parties (SMSP), met in Geneva from 4-5 December 2000 and from 7-8 May 2001.
2. At the Second Meeting of the States Parties (SMSP), it was agreed, in accordance with paragraph 28 of the final report of the SMSP, that Japan and Nicaragua would serve as Co-Chairs of the SC, with Canada and Honduras serving as Co-Rapporteurs.
3. In keeping with the intersessional programme's spirit of practical cooperation, inclusivity and collegiality, the meetings of the Standing Committee were open to all interested States and relevant organizations. Over 70 States, including several States not parties to the Convention, were registered as participants in the meetings, along with numerous international and non-governmental organizations, including the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
4. The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) provided valuable administrative and organizational support to the Standing Committee, which was greatly appreciated by the Co-Chairs and the meeting participants.

II. Matters reviewed by the Standing Committee

5. The work of the Standing Committee was organized to advance the work undertaken by the Standing Committee in 1999-2000 by assessing the implementation of, and identifying concrete actions related to, providing assistance to victims and delivering mine awareness education. In this context, the Standing Committee covered six thematic areas: (a) raising the voices of landmine survivors; (b) linking resources with needs; (c) implementing lessons learned related to the coordination of victim assistance; (d) guidelines, information dissemination and information management; (e) social and economic reintegration; and, (f) mine awareness.
6. Raising the voices of landmine survivors: The Standing Committee was advised that sharing personal hardships by landmine survivors can help the cause of survivors by reminding experts and diplomats of the human faces behind complex issues. However, it was noted that after one cycle of intersessional work it is time to deepen the practice of inclusion as it pertains to

ensuring that landmine survivors are effectively involved in the expression of their needs and in means developed to meet these needs.

7. The Standing Committee discussed means to raise the voices of landmine victims, including the development of networks of persons with disabilities to assist in the promotion of their rights and interests, the establishment of legislation to protect and enhance the lives of persons with disabilities, and the idea of a leadership training programme to reinforce the participation of landmine survivors in the work of the Standing Committees. In addition, the Standing Committee was reminded of some of the challenges associated with deepening the inclusion of the landmines survivors, including the fact that landmine victims are not typically in positions of power or decision-making, and the reality that there are special challenges faced by persons with communications-related disabilities.

8. Linking resources with needs: The Standing Committee discussed what is known about the level of need that exists regarding provision of assistance for landmine victims. It was highlighted that the mine action community is still dealing with vast approximations when it comes to knowing the numbers of landmine victims. While in some cases fairly comprehensive data exist on the number of new casualties, the limitation of these data is that they do not indicate the existing number of landmine victims or other persons with disabilities. Several indicators were suggested as possible means for more effectively assessing the global need as it pertains to victim assistance.

9. The Standing Committee noted that resources for victim assistance make up only a small percentage of total funding for mine action. It was pointed out that for some donors, given the multiple sources of funds, it can be difficult to accurately denominate resources for victim assistance. In addition, it was highlighted that the existence of multiple sources within donor governments makes it difficult to identify where the principal points of entry are for accessing funds.

10. Implementing lessons learned related to the coordination of victim assistance: The Standing Committee discussed principles that should underlie good coordination, lessons learned from the field for applicability elsewhere and possible models for organizing a mine-affected State's victim assistance efforts. In this regard, the Standing Committee benefited from extremely rich presentations made by individuals from mine-affected countries. It was noted that effective national coordination is required for: the development of national action plans; the coordination of service delivery; the facilitation of policy development; addressing and preventing service gaps; ensuring an equitable distribution of services; facilitating information sharing; developing national capacity; promoting ownership and participation; coordinating research; and, serving as a focal point for relevant internal and external parties.

11. The Standing Committee discussed that a variety of principles should underlie national coordination, including: that work in this sector requires a long-term commitment; that basic needs must be met; that there is a need to simultaneously respond to emergencies while laying the

foundation for longer-term development; that national capacity building at all levels is the foundation of long-term sustainability; that persons with disabilities should be engaged at all levels of decision-making; that coordination is not control; that a variety of approaches are needed to encourage creativity and diversification; that governments in post-conflict situations are often under-resourced; and, that there is a need to promote a spirit of cooperation in post-conflict settings.

12. Guidelines, information dissemination and information management: The Standing Committee discussed that a comprehensive inventory of tools exists which can contribute to victim assistance information tracking. The Standing Committee received updates on some of these tools.

13. It was noted that the United Nations Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities provide a great deal of guidance to States Parties and others in that they: (a) highlight the preconditions for equal participation on the part of persons with disabilities; (b) target areas like education and employment for equal participation; and; (c) outline implementation measures. In addition, it was noted that national/state authorities, the UN, non-governmental organizations, disabled persons' organizations and communities all have roles and responsibilities in the implementation of these rules.

14. The Standing Committee discussed the difficulty of implementing the UN Standard Rules in mine-affected countries, especially in those hampered by a lack of technical and financial resources and a shortage of equipment. The Standing Committee recognized that successful and effective implementation of the UN Standard Rules implies a coordinated partnership involving governments, communities, organizations and NGOs. In the context of discussion on the UN Standard Rules, the need was expressed for greater involvement of persons with disabilities in the development and implementation of government policy and planning.

15. Social and Economic Reintegration: The Standing Committee initiated an extremely wide-ranging dialogue on the Convention obligation to provide for the social and economic reintegration of landmine victims. The Standing Committee paid special attention to vocational rehabilitation and psycho-social rehabilitation.

16. With respect to vocational reintegration, it was noted that in post-conflict situations landmine victims suffer from a number of factors, including having been more intensively affected by the conflict, having less access to goods and services, being socially excluded, having less access to employment services and credit. Overcoming these challenges involves vocational rehabilitative policies and programmes taking an individual approach, prioritizing needs and undertaking labour-market assessments to ensure there is a clear link between training and the possible opportunities that exist post-training.

17. With respect to psycho-social rehabilitation, the importance of survivor-to-survivor counselling was presented to the Standing Committee and it was argued that the problems faced

by survivors are not as much physical as they are psychological. In addition, the Standing Committee was reminded of the importance of identifying needs in a participatory manner, providing meaningful economic empowerment and support that will lead to independence, and the need for a holistic approach.

18. Mine Awareness: The Standing Committee received presentations on initiatives related to making advances in mine awareness programming and updates from UNICEF and the Organization of American States on the development of preventive education efforts in mine-affected countries.

19. The Standing Committee discussed how evaluation is a necessary activity in the implementation of good mine actions awareness programmes. It was emphasized that mistakes made in mine awareness programming can have human costs and result in a waste of time and resources. Lessons learned from evaluations that have been conducted include the fact that communities do manage to cope one way or another, that individuals knowingly take risks, that poorly implemented programmes can cause more damage than no programme, and that measuring the impact of programming is difficult but not impossible.

III. Actions related to the development of specific tools and instruments to assist in implementing the Convention

20. The Standing Committee welcomed efforts by the ICBL's Working Group on Victim Assistance to update the "**Portfolio of Landmine Victim Assistance Programs**" in time for the Third Meeting of the States Parties.

21. The Standing Committee welcomed the guidance provided to States Parties by the ICBL's Working Group on Victim Assistance on how States Parties can use the **Article 7 Reporting Format's "Form J"** to report on actions taken to provide assistance to victims.

22. The Standing Committee noted continued development by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation of the "**Strategic Framework for Victim Assistance**" as a tool to assist in integrating assistance to victims in a broader context of post-conflict reconstruction and development strategies.

23. The Standing Committee took note of actions to enhance and/or disseminate the following victim assistance information tracking tools: (a) The **Rehabilitation Services Database**, which is in-place in four countries with plans to expand it to six more; (b) The **Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA)**, in which will be launched an incident/ accident report in 2001; (c) **The World Health Organization's data collection project**, which is ongoing in Africa; and, (d) The manual, *Measuring Landmine Incidents and Injuries and the Capacity to Provide Care*.

24. The Co-Chairs took action to identify focal points for victim assistance and made a commitment to distribute a **list of focal points** in order to facilitate a more effective dissemination of information.

25. The Co-Chairs distributed an English-language version of a **compilation of guidelines, best practices and methodologies for victim assistance** and made a commitment to produce versions in Spanish and French.

26. The Standing Committee took note of actions to widely distribute the United Nations **Guidelines for Landmine and Unexploded Ordnance Awareness Education** and the translation of these guidelines into eight languages.

III. Actions taken or in process to assist in the implementation of the Convention

27. The Standing Committee warmly welcomed the initiative of the Landmine Survivors Network (LSN), on behalf of the ICBL Working Group on Victim Assistance, to work towards greater involvement of landmine survivors in matters that affect them, including the need to deepen involvement in the development and implementation of mine-action programmes. In particular, the Standing Committee provided its strong encouragement to LSN in its work to coordinate the “Raising the Voices of Landmine Survivors” initiative, which involves a training programme designed to develop a core group of “survivor advocates” who could participate actively in Standing Committee meetings and provide leadership in their communities.

28. The Standing Committee took note of the efforts of Handicap International and others to plan a Regional Workshop on Victim Assistance in South East Asia, which will take place in Thailand on 6-8 November 2001. The workshop’s main objectives are to provide those active in the region with the opportunity to study and discuss the local situation and victim assistance issues and to exchange views on the methods used to meet the challenges defined in country action plans.

29. The Standing Committee took note of the actions of the GICHD and the United Nations Mine Action Service in their efforts to proceed with a study on the relationship between mine action programmes and victim assistance.

30. The Standing Committee took note of the actions of the ICBL Working Group on Victim Assistance to gather information about relevant activities, issues and concerns in the area of psycho-social rehabilitation, including the establishment of a listserv and the convening of a meeting for interested parties, which took place in Washington, D.C, on 29 March 2001.

31. The Standing Committee took note of the actions of the GICHD to undertake a study to improve field-based media/communication tools and strategies for mine awareness education through field survey, research and analysis.

32. The Standing Committee took note of the actions of Radda Barnen to organize a mine awareness seminar in Aden in early 2001.

V. Recommendations made by the Standing Committee

33. It was recommended that efforts be undertaken to deepen the inclusion of landmine survivors by ensuring that survivors are effectively involved in the expression of their needs and in means developed to meet these needs. In this context, it was recommended that the ICBL Working Group on Victim Assistance continue with its “raising the voices of landmine survivors” initiative and expand it, focusing on different regions.

34. It was recommended that with a wealth of existing tools to track victim assistance information, efforts should be made to use and enhance these tools rather than developing any new tools.

35. With respect to undertaking efforts to provide social and economic assistance to landmine survivors, it was recommended that those involved in relevant initiatives consider how barriers to access for persons with disabilities could be addressed.

36. In providing vocational rehabilitation services to landmine survivors, it was recommended that States and relevant organizations work towards reducing vulnerability and promoting self-reliance. In addition, in designing and implementing initiatives, it was recommended that relevant actors consider adequate access to social protection and social security mechanisms, including occupational retraining, and the creation of opportunities for social dialogue and equal access to employment.

37. It was recommended that States Parties and relevant organizations share information and experiences and have an open and continuous dialogue on existing peer-support initiatives, programme successes and shortcomings, and relevant programme documentation. In this context, it was recommended that interested parties provide information to the ICBL Working Group on Victim Assistance in its role as a voluntary focal point on this matter.

38. It was recommended that relevant parties make use of the United Nations Guidelines for Landmine and Unexploded Ordnance Awareness Education in planning and delivering mine awareness programming.

39. It was recommended that relevant parties consider the importance of evaluating mine awareness programmes in programme planning and delivery.

40. It was recommended that the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) take into account the location and characteristics of communities which are at risk, and analyse that information in the light of those communities’ environmental, cultural and socio-economic situation.

41. It was recommended that consideration should be given to dedicating more time during Standing Committee meetings to discuss mine awareness. In addition, it was recommended that the topic of mine awareness be placed within the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance and Related Technologies.

42. With a view to reinforcing the point that the Standing Committees are all about identifying practical means to assist in implementing the Convention, it was recommended that all Standing Committee participants give consideration to converting the wealth of information, advice and suggestions provided to the Standing Committee into concrete actions.

VI. Reference to supporting documents

43. The Portfolio of Landmine Victim Assistance Programs can be accessed and downloaded at: <http://www.landminevap.org>.

44. The Rehabilitation Services Database can be accessed at: <http://www.lsndatabase.org/>.

45. The manual, *Measuring Landmine Incidents and Injuries and the Capacity to Provide Care*, can be accessed and downloaded at:
http://www.phrusa.org/publications/measure_landmine.html.

46. The United Nations Guidelines for Landmine and Unexploded Ordnance Awareness Education can be accessed and downloaded at:
<http://www.unicef.org/landguide/guidelines.htm>.

47. Information on the GICHD Landmine Awareness Education Media & Messages Study can be accessed at: http://gichd.ch/docs/sutides/mine_awareness_media.htm.

Report of the Standing Committee on Stockpile Destruction
to the Third Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention

I. Introduction

1. The Standing Committee (SC) on Stockpile Destruction, originally established as the Standing Committee of Experts on Stockpile Destruction in accordance with the decisions and recommendations of the 3-7 May 1999 First Meeting of the States Parties (FMSP), met in Geneva on 7 December 2000 and 10 May 2001.
2. At the Second Meeting of the States Parties (SMSP), it was agreed, in accordance with paragraph 28 of the final report of the SMSP, that Malaysia and Slovakia would serve as Co-Chairs of the SC, with Australia and Croatia serving as Co-Rapporteurs.
3. Representatives of more than 80 States Parties, United Nations bodies, the ICRC, ICBL and numerous other relevant organizations were registered as participants in either or both of the two meetings.
4. The meetings of the SC received administrative support from the GICHD.

II. Matters reviewed by the Standing Committee

5. The SC conducted its work in the following thematic areas: stockpile destruction as an integral part of mine action; the need for adequate and equitable allocation of resources and of matching donors with needs; and the lessons learned from case studies, both national and regional; the necessity for the SC to continue focusing on the way ahead and to assist countries in meeting the four-year deadline.
6. The SC reiterated that stockpile destruction, as the "fifth pillar" of mine action, was an integral part of the Convention's implementation and that compliance with Article 4 obligations should receive high political priority.
7. The SC considered a number of practical issues with a view to highlighting the importance of the core objective of the SC, namely to facilitate a swift and dramatic reduction in the number of stockpiled anti-personnel mines globally, including through the following:
 - ensuring political priority for stockpile destruction;
 - updating and assessing overall progress with regard to stockpile destruction; (including providing progress report on global stockpiles and their destruction);
 - emphasizing the obligations and rights of countries under Article 4 of the Convention;

- discussing the merits and constraints of various methods and technologies for destruction as experienced by individual countries;
- emphasizing the role of both the military and private sectors in stockpile destruction, depending on individual countries needs;
- taking into account logistical, technical, financial and environmental considerations in planning the stockpile destruction programmes;
- considering all possible alternatives to the current methods of stockpile destruction;
- stressing the key role of proper planning and implementation of the process leading up to the actual destruction of stockpiles;
- recognizing the need for continuous financial and technical assistance-bilateral, multilateral and regional approaches to stockpile destruction;
- including the information on stockpile destruction in the Article 7 reports;
- focusing on the issue of foreign stockpiles;
- engaging the media and the public at large in the process of stockpile destruction;
- considering mechanisms for engaging non-States parties in reducing their stockpiles.

III. Actions taken related to the development of specific tools and instruments to assist in implementing the Convention

8. A website related to stockpile destruction was established by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and Canada in September 2000 and States were encouraged to make contributions. Information contained in the website includes proposed United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) guidelines on stockpile destruction, as well as a list of companies, experts and related technologies on stockpile destruction. It is believed that a cumulative list of companies, experts and related technologies could provide a necessary link between "donor" and "recipient" countries when designing future cooperative structures.

9. Experts' seminars on stockpile destruction proved to be a useful tool for sharing expertise and experience in coping with the problems and challenges of stockpile destruction.

10. Regional initiatives contributed to stockpile destruction efforts. For example, the Managua Challenge (see below) contributed greatly to the speed at which stockpile destruction has been achieved in the Americas. This concrete example of a regional approach to stockpile destruction could also be applied in other regions, such as Africa and Asia.

11. The important role that ICBL's *Landmine Monitor* plays in reporting on the global process of stockpile destruction and contributing to greater transparency on this issue was highly appreciated.

IV. Action taken or in process to assist in the implementation of the Convention

12. Exploring avenues for finding additional resources for stockpile destruction projects continued to be one of the areas of concern addressed during the intersessional meetings. Various bilateral, multilateral and regional approaches were considered as means for seeking funding for stockpile destruction projects. The initiative launched by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (NATO/EAPC) in Albania was cited as one of the most effective examples of assistance in stockpile destruction.

13. Many delegations offered to share their experiences with stockpile destruction, in particular with regard to the merits and constraints of various methods of destruction. Various financial, technical, social and environmental considerations were also discussed, and an emphasis was placed on the need for careful planning and implementation of the process leading up to the actual destruction of stockpiles. The need to consider engaging the media and the public at large in the process of stockpile destruction was also emphasized.

14. The roles of UNMAS and UNDP in facilitating stockpile destruction projects were also discussed. UNDP is present in 137 countries worldwide, and therefore in countries where UNMAS is not present, the UNDP acts as that country's first and often only link with outside donors. Although United Nations agencies are traditionally involved in facilitating humanitarian demining activities, the possibility of expanding their activities to facilitate stockpile destruction should not be excluded.

15. States Parties that have decided to retain zero stocks of anti-personnel mines explained the rationale for such a move. Many other countries which had originally retained high number of stockpiled APLs in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of the Convention, made encouraging and positive steps towards reducing the overall number of stockpiled APLs.

16. A Regional Seminar on Stockpile Destruction was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 6-7 November 2000, at which the Managua Challenge was launched. The aim of the Managua Challenge is to assist OAS member States to develop and execute national stockpile destruction plans, to identify technical resources and funding necessary for stockpile destruction, to facilitate international certification, and to assist with any other requirements within the capabilities and mandate of the OAS. In concrete terms, the Managua Challenge set out three goals: (a) it urged the signatories of the Ottawa Convention in the Americas to join the 27 States Parties from the region by ratifying the Convention, and thereby to maintain political momentum in the region to implement the Convention; (b) it encouraged States Parties to complete their Article 7, with the aim of promoting greater transparency; and (c) it aimed to complete the destruction of all stockpiles in American States by the Third Meeting of States Parties in Managua in September 2001.

17. A Seminar on the Destruction of PFM1 and PFM1S mines was held in Budapest, Hungary, on 1-2 February 2001. The primary aim of the seminar was to stimulate technical dialogue on the PFM mine problem among affected countries, technical experts and donors. The conclusions of the seminar highlighted the need for more information on the chemical components of the PFM mine, and therefore the need for a technical study of the PFM mine so as to gain reliable technical data for working out the best possible technical solution. The question of funding for this project was also discussed, and it was stressed that donor support would need to be channeled through an appropriate mechanism.

18. A Seminar on the Universalization and Implementation of the Ottawa Convention in Africa was held in Bamako, Mali, on 15-16 February 2001. Although the objective of this meeting was to help facilitate universalization, ratification and full implementation of the Convention in Africa, a stockpile destruction workshop was held in the framework of the meeting. As the stockpile destruction workshop affirmed that little is known of the scale of the problem in many African countries, it also concluded that there is a need to develop a database on the scope of the APL problem in all African countries. The database would include the number of stockpiled APLs. It was noted that the lack of financial aid is the primary reason for delays in implementing stockpile destruction programmes. It was therefore suggested that a fund be set up for deserving cases. Canada has already pledged to contribute to such a fund, while Canada and the GICHD have pledged to assist in planning stockpile destruction programmes with technical/expert advice. It was also suggested that the UNDP examine the possibility of managing voluntary contributions in this regard, and that interested countries follow up on France's offer to send military personnel to assist with stockpile destruction programmes.

19. An Antipersonnel Mines Stockpile Destruction Management Training Course was held in Fribourg, Switzerland, on 11-15 June 2001. The course offered training for experts who were involved in their respective national stockpile destruction programmes. It was hoped that at the end of the Training Course, participants would be in a position to better assess their national situations and therefore also APL stockpile destruction options; to make technical evaluations of existing stocks; to elaborate standard procedures; to use existing national resources; to identify areas of international cooperation; and to use available international experience.

20. A Regional Asia-Pacific Stockpile Destruction Meeting was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 8-9 August 2001. The meeting was attended by representatives from the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) member-countries. The meeting provided a forum for government officials, experts as well as non-governmental organizations to engage in technical discussions on methods for the destruction of APLs and other munitions, and also included discussions on safe, efficient and environmentally friendly methods of storage, transport, planning and destruction operations using international standards.

21. The Committee agreed that, at the TMSP, the urgency and importance of stockpile destruction should be reiterated.

V. Recommendations made by the Standing Committee

22. It was recommended that information regarding the existence, number and type of stockpiled APLs throughout the world should be made more readily available. This was considered to be especially important in regions of the world where there is a general lack of information on this issue.

23. It was recommended that sufficient resources need to be identified to assist States with stockpile destruction operations, along with the appropriate mechanisms to effectively deliver this assistance. Coordination must be carried out among donors to identify priorities for stockpile destruction funding.

24. It was recommended that the process of stockpile destruction be concluded in an environmentally sound manner, especially with regard to certain types of APLs the detonation of which can have toxic side effects, such as with the PFM1 type of APL. Due attention should be given to environmental policies as well as risk assessments in implementing stockpile destruction programmes.

25. It was recommended that States Parties be encouraged to utilize the APL Stockpile Destruction database website established by UNMAS and Canada (<http://www.stockpiles.org>), and for purposes of increased transparency encourages all interested parties to contribute to the website, including by providing information on issues such as new technologies for stockpile destruction, industrial information, national policies as well as case studies.

26. It was recommended that the idea of regional initiatives should be explored further so as to help accelerate the stockpile destruction process worldwide.

Report of the Standing Committee on the
General Status and Operation of the Convention
to the Third Meeting of States Parties

I. Introduction

1. The Standing Committee on General Status and Operation of the Convention (SC-GSO), established in accordance with the decisions and recommendations of the 3-7 May 1999 First Meeting of States Parties (FMSP) and the 11-15 September 2000 Second Meeting of States Parties (SMSP), met in Geneva on 7 December 2000 and 11 May 2001.
2. At the SMSP it was agreed, in accordance with paragraph 28 of the final report, that Belgium and Zimbabwe would serve as Co-Chairs of the SC-GSO, with Norway and Thailand serving as Co-Rapporteurs.
3. In keeping with the Convention's tradition, the Standing Committee meetings proceeded in the spirit of partnership, inclusivity, transparency and practical cooperation. The level of participation, in particular from mine-affected countries, was significant with approximately 350 persons from over 80 countries in attendance at the intersessional meetings, in addition to numerous international and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
4. The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) provided valuable and essential administrative and organizational support to the Standing Committees, which was greatly appreciated by the Co-Chairs and the meeting participants.

II. Matters reviewed by the Standing Committee

5. The SC-GSO noted with satisfaction that the Intersessional Work Programme, in its first two years of operation, has become the meeting place it was intended to be, bringing together mine-affected and donor countries, international and regional organizations, and NGOs to mark, measure and stimulate progress in the full implementation of the Convention. The Standing Committee noted that the Intersessional Work Programme is a valuable contribution to the successful implementation of the Convention.
6. The First Meeting of States Parties created the intersessional work programme in order to "consolidate and concentrate global Mine Action efforts ... and to highlight the role of the Convention as a comprehensive framework for Mine Action". In this respect, the SC-GSO also noted with satisfaction that the structure of the Intersessional Standing Committee meetings since the Second Meeting of States Parties has contributed to the enhanced functioning of the intersessional SC meetings.

7. The SC-GSO noted with satisfaction that the Sponsorship Programme, established prior to the SMSP, has facilitated a broader participation of mine-affected countries in all ISC meetings.

8. The SC-GSO noted that the contributions of the ICBL and the ICRC, have been of substantive value in all four of the Standing Committees.

9. The SC-GSO acknowledged that while progress has been made, further consideration should be given to possible further improvements, specifically in relation to the format and time allocated to the different Standing Committees, as well as to desired concrete outcomes and action plans.

10. The SC-GSO addressed the need, as expressed by numerous States Parties, for a strengthened support function for the Convention, in order to ensure its consolidation and continued momentum, as well as the sustainability of the intersessional work programme, considered crucial to the effective implementation of the Convention. The SC-GSO recognized that the GICHD would be the appropriate entity through which to provide the enhanced support as this could build on the existing efforts that the GICHD has provided so far.

11. The SC-GSO devoted attention to the preparation of the Third Meeting of States Parties (TMSP), including the adoption of the draft budget for the TMSP. In this context, the Committee also reiterated the request to UNDDA to provide the financial reports from the annual Meetings of States Parties in a timely manner. The Committee agreed to simplify the procedures for delegations' participation in the MSP in Rule 4 of the draft Rules of Procedure. It was further agreed that the venue for the Fourth MSP will be Geneva. The SC Co-Chairs also serve as Vice-Presidents of the annual Meetings of States Parties. A proposal for the 8 new Co-Rapporteurs of the 4 SCs will be presented to the TMSP for decision.

12. The SC-GSO welcomed the valuable role of the Coordinating Committee (CC), chaired by the President of the Meeting of States Parties, which has met regularly since the SMSP. Initially a meeting of the SC Co-Chairs, the CC meetings now include the Co-Rapporteurs. The ICBL and the ICRC have been invited to the CC meetings as of June 2001, to deal with the preparation of the TMSP. The CC is a representative, geographically balanced body elected by the annual MSPs. The CC is considered key to the effective implementation of the Convention. It has been a useful mechanism for improved functioning, consistency and coordination of the intersessional work programme, for planning of the annual Meetings of States Parties and for exchanges of views.

Universalization

13. The SC-GSO welcomed the work carried out by the Universalization Contact Group, established and led by Canada. This informal group held several meetings on the margins of the intersessional weeks and the SMSP in Geneva. The Universalization Contact Group has been open-ended, with 15 States Parties, ICBL, ICRC and others taking part in the meetings. Interested

States Parties or relevant organizations willing to actively participate and promote universalization of the Convention are welcome to join. The Committee expressed appreciation for the many actions taken by the ICBL and ICRC to promote the Convention.

14. The Committee noted with appreciation the various regional initiatives taken to reach potential new States Parties, such as the Pan-African seminar in Bamako, Mali, in February 2001 on the universalization and the implementation of the Convention. There have also been important initiatives in the Asia and Pacific region, as well as the Americas region.

15. The SC-GSO noted a positive momentum in the progress on ratifications. 118 countries have either ratified or acceded to the Convention and the number is constantly growing. With an additional 22 countries having signed, but not yet ratified the Convention, the number of States Parties and signatories now totals 140. Global efforts to promote understanding of, compliance with and consolidation of the Convention are to be encouraged.

Article 1

16. The SC-GSO devoted considerable attention to what may be permitted under Article 1 (c) in relation to the interpretation of "assist", with regard to a) the legality of joint operations with non-States Parties using anti-personnel mines and b) the stockpiling and transit of foreign anti-personnel mines.

17. Some States Parties have made information available about their national practices in these matters and supported continued enhanced dialogue. The ICBL has also asked for more information exchange on matters related to Article 1 (c).

Article 2

18. The SC-GSO addressed the issue of anti-vehicle mines with sensitive fuses or sensitive anti-handling devices with a view to taking all possible steps to minimize the risk to civilian populations of certain anti-vehicle mines. The SC-GSO noted the "Report on the ICRC Technical Expert Meeting on Anti-vehicle Mines with Sensitive Fuses or with Sensitive Handling Devices", held on 13-14 March 2001 in Geneva, particularly the identification by participants at the Expert Meeting of possible best practices regarding the design and use of certain fusing mechanisms on anti-vehicle mines. Several delegations expressed their support during the May Standing Committee meeting for the establishment of such "best practices". It was understood that particular attention should be given to anti-vehicle mines which can be detonated by a person, including those equipped with low-pressure fuses, tripwires, breakwires and tilt rods and that further research regarding Article 2 point 3 is needed. ICBL reminded the SC-GSO that States Parties have acknowledged that directional fragmentation (claymore type) mines may be used only in command detonated mode and not with tripwires; and recommended that States Parties report on claymore-type mines held in stocks and steps taken to ensure use by command detonation only.

Article 3

19. It was noted that 34 States Parties have reported in their Article 7 reports that they retained anti-personnel mines for training and development purposes. It was reiterated that the understanding of the Oslo negotiators was that the numbers of retained anti-personnel mines should be the "minimum number absolutely necessary and should be calculated in hundreds or thousands, and not in tens of thousands". The Committee took note of the ICBL suggestion that States Parties include information on the intended purpose and actual use of anti-personnel mines retained for training or development purposes in their national reports submitted under Article 7.

Article 7

20. The SC-GSO noted that there was an increase in the number of States Parties that have submitted their reports to the UNSG on time. Optional Form J, which can be used, on a voluntary basis, to report on Victim Assistance and other matters, was used by some States Parties.

21. The SC-GSO acknowledged the difficulties faced by some States Parties in reporting and took note of the efforts to assist them, including through the Article 7 Contact Group established by Belgium. The draft Article 7 Reporting Guide distributed at the May Standing Committee meeting, developed by VERTIC in cooperation with Belgium and the ICBL, can be a useful tool to States Parties in preparing their reports.

22. The SC-GSO noted the concerns expressed by ICBL and its urging of States Parties to include information in their Article 7 reports on Claymore mines, prohibited anti-vehicle mines with sensitive fuses or sensitive anti-handling devices, intended purpose and actual use of mines retained under Article 3, as well as on foreign stockpiles under their jurisdiction or control.

Article 8

23. The SC-GSO took note of ICBL's concerns on compliance matters, the respect for the international norm being established by the Convention and the question of dealing with the use of mines by non-States Parties. The SC-GSO noted the possibility of measures short of invoking Article 8, such as consultations or seeking clarification on compliance issues, if there are possible non-compliances.

24. The SC-GSO recognized the work by Canada on the operationalization of Article 8. Canada was encouraged to pursue its active role and involvement. The SC-GSO agreed with the conclusion in the working paper produced by Canada that further dialogue and discussions on the matter should continue.

Article 9

25. The SC-GSO welcomed the increase in the number of States Parties that have adopted implementation measures at the national level, in conformity with Article 9. The SC-GSO also welcomed the "Information Kit on the Development of National Legislation to Implement the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines" intended to assist interested States Parties, which was developed by the ICRC, in cooperation with Belgium and the ICBL.

III. Actions taken related to the development of specific tools and instruments to assist in implementing the Convention

26. The SC-GSO recognized the following as useful tools:

- The "Report on the ICRC Technical Expert Meeting on Anti-vehicle Mines with Sensitive Fuses or with Sensitive Handling Devices";
- The Article 7 Reporting Guide developed by VERTIC, in cooperation with Belgium and the ICBL;
- The "Information Kit on the Development of National Legislation to Implement the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines" developed by ICRC, in cooperation with Belgium and the ICBL.

27. Furthermore, the Landmine Monitor 2000 - published by the ICBL - provides regularly updated LM factsheets on Stockpile Destruction, Article 7 reporting and other relevant matters, such as Joint Operations, which are available on the ICBL website (cfr 54).

IV. Action taken or in process to assist in the implementation of the Convention

28. The Intersessional Work Programme and its Standing Committee meetings play a crucial role in the successful implementation of the Convention.

29. The Universalization Contact Group, chaired by Canada, continues to be effective in promoting universalization of the Convention. The Article 7 Contact Group, chaired by Belgium is a useful means of promoting Article 7 reporting by States Parties.

30. The ongoing efforts of the ICBL and the ICRC remain important to the successful implementation of the Convention.

V. Recommendations made by the Standing Committee

Recommendations (General)

31. It is recommended that the TMSP recognize the value and importance of the Coordinating Committee in the effective functioning and implementation of the Convention. It is recommended that the Coordinating Committee be tasked to consider further improvements in the format, timing and concrete outcomes of the Intersessional SC meetings.

32. It is recommended that the TMSP agree to mandate the GICHD to increase its support to the Convention. For this purpose an Implementation Support Unit (ISU) should be established within the GICHD. States Parties in a position to do so are encouraged to provide adequate financial resources to the ISU.

33. It is recommended that the TMSP express appreciation for the establishment of the Sponsorship Programme. Donor countries are encouraged to continue their financial contributions to the Programme and additional donor countries would be welcomed.

34. It is recommended that the TMSP express appreciation for and welcome the substantive participation of the ICBL and the ICRC in the intersessional meetings.

35. It is recommended that the first of the next two intersessional weeks take place on 28 January to 1 February 2002 and that the second take place on 27 to 31 May 2002.

36. It is recommended that the TMSP decide that the Fourth MSP will be held in Geneva on 16 to 20 September 2002.

37. It is recommended that the following States be nominated to serve as Co-Rapporteurs following the TMSP:

- Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration (and Mine Awareness): Colombia and France
- Mine Clearance and Related Technologies (and Mine Awareness): Belgium and Kenya
- Stockpile destruction: Romania and Switzerland
- General Status and Operation of the Convention: Austria and Peru

Recommendations (Universalization)

38. It is recommended that the Universalization Contact Group be encouraged to continue its work and more States Parties are encouraged to contribute to efforts to universalize the Convention.

39. It is recommended that States Parties note the need for increased efforts in the regions where a number of countries have not yet acceded to the Convention.

Recommendation (Article 1)

40. It is recommended that further consultations be undertaken with a view to reaching a common understanding of the interpretation of Article 1 (c), before the first Review Conference of the Convention in 2004. States Parties are encouraged to inform the SC-GSO of their national views and practices.

Recommendation (Article 2)

41. It is recommended that the TMSP encourage States Parties to review the anti-vehicle mines in their own inventories to ensure that the risk they pose to individual civilians is minimized. States Parties are encouraged to consider and to adopt, as appropriate, relevant best practices of the type identified in the report of the ICRC-hosted Expert Meeting on anti-vehicle mines with sensitive fuses or with sensitive anti-handling devices (13-14 March 2001).

Recommendations (Article 3)

42. It is recommended that the States Parties reaffirm the understanding that anti-personnel mines retained for training and development purposes in accordance with Article 3 should be kept to the minimum number absolutely necessary and be numbered in the hundreds or thousands, and not in the tens of thousands.

43. In keeping with the legal obligation to report on anti-personnel mines retained under Article 3, it is recommended that States Parties be encouraged to include information on the intended purpose and actual use of such mines in their Article 7 reports and to inform the SC-GSO accordingly.

Recommendations (Article 7)

44. It is recommended that the TMSP urge all States Parties to fulfil their reporting obligations in accordance with the provisions of Article 7.

45. It is recommended that the TMSP note with appreciation various efforts, such as those undertaken by Vertic, the Belgian Government and the ICBL, among others, to assist States Parties in overcoming reporting difficulties. It is also recommended that the TMSP note the Article 7 Reporting Handbook produced by Vertic, in cooperation with the Belgian government and ICBL, as a useful guide in preparing national reports in accordance with the requirements of Article 7. It is recommended that the Article 7 Contact Group be encouraged to continue its work.

46. States Parties are invited to use Optional Form J, on a voluntary basis, for expanded reporting on victim assistance and other relevant matters.

Recommendation (Article 8)

47. It is recommended that the TMSP note with appreciation efforts by Canada and encourage Canada to continue the dialogue further on the matter of the operationalization of Article 8.

Recommendation (Article 9)

48. It is recommended that the TMSP note with appreciation the work of ICRC in collaboration with Belgium and the ICBL on the "Information Kit on the Development of National Legislation". States Parties are encouraged to enact national legislation and adopt other implementing measures in accordance with the requirements of Article 9, making use on a voluntary basis of the Information Kit. States Parties, which have not adopted legislative measures to implement the Convention, are urged to inform the SC-GSO meetings of the status of efforts to enact such measures and to inform the SC-GSO of other relevant measures taken.

VI. Reference to supporting documents

49. Universalization Contact Group: kerry.brinkert@dfait-maeci.gc.ca

50. Article 7 Contact Group: Danielle.Haven@diplobel.fed.be

51. "Report on the ICRC Technical Expert Meeting on Anti-vehicle Mines with Sensitive Fuses or with Sensitive Handling Devices": weapons.gva@icrc.org

52. Article 7 Reporting Guide: www.vertic.org and angela@vertic.org

53. "Information Kit on the Development of National Legislation to Implement the Convention on the Prohibition of Anti-Personnel Mines": <http://www.icrc.org> and weapons.gva@icrc.org

54. ICBL website: <http://www.icbl.org> [Landmine Monitor (LM) online and LM Factsheets, Index on Landmines resources and extensive updated landmines information]

55. Reference Documents for the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention (December 2000 and May 2001): Co-Chair Belgium
Contact: Danielle.Haven@diplobel.fed.be

ANNEX IV

PRESIDENT'S ACTION PROGRAMME

The aim of the President's Action Programme is to define practical steps to be taken in order to help in the implementation of the Convention. It provides a roadmap of the specific initiatives and activities that are envisaged for the intersessional period as well as topics and areas that require particular attention with regard to strengthening the implementation of the Convention.

In developing their work plans for the 2001-2002 Standing Committees, the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs are encouraged to pursue the implementation of the relevant portions of the President's Action Programme. In addition, States Parties and other parties are urged to consider participating in the implementation of the initiatives and activities listed in this document. In addition, to assist in the coordination of our collective efforts, the President's Action Programme includes a rolling calendar of future mine action activities that are consistent with this objective. (See annex)

On the basis of the recommendations of the Standing Committees, the President has identified the following priorities for actions to be taken in the coming year:

1) Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration

Enhance the inclusion of landmine survivors:

With the aim of deepening the involvement of landmine survivors in matters that affect them and other persons with disabilities, the Landmine Survivors Network will expand the "Raising the Voices" programme. This programme will continue to provide training to landmine survivors, enabling their participation in Standing Committee meetings and enhancing their capacity to undertake advocacy projects and provide leadership in their communities.

Improve assessment of victim assistance needs:

In order to obtain a more comprehensive view of the global victim assistance needs, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) Working Group on Victim Assistance will continue to develop various indicators. In addition, the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration will work with other interested parties to ensure that victim assistance information initiatives progress to the point where relevant information can be shared with and used by the Standing Committee.

Link resources with needs:

The ICBL Working Group on Victim Assistance will continue to produce and distribute the Portfolio of Victim Assistance Programmes in order to promote funding of identified programmes and to provide States Parties with a tool to link donor resources with victim assistance needs.

Implement lessons learned in coordination of victim assistance:

Handicap International will report to the Standing Committee on the results of the South East Asia workshop on victim assistance to take place in Thailand, November 6-8, 2001. United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and the Geneva International Center for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) will further update the next Standing Committee Meeting on the study about the relationship between mine action programmes and victim assistance, with an aim to translate the anticipated results into realistic actions.

Disseminate guidelines and best practices:

The Co-Chairs will continue to encourage states to identify focal points for victim assistance and distribute updated lists of focal points at Standing Committee meetings. In addition, the Co-Chairs will distribute to focal points the compilation of victim assistance guidelines, best practices and methodologies, which was developed by the former Co-Chairs.

Promoting lessons learned from socio-economic reintegration practices:

The ICBL Working Group on Victim Assistance will continue to investigate means to enhance peer-support initiatives aimed at landmine survivors sharing information and experiences, identifying progresses and shortcomings, and gathering of relevant documentation on the subject.

2) Mine Clearance, Mine Awareness and Mine Action Technologies

Set priorities to assist mine-affected countries to comply with mine-clearance obligations:

As financial resources are scarce and all mine-affected States Parties in need of international assistance should be supported in order to be able to meet their obligations,, the identification of priorities for mine action programmes as well as the allocation of resources for such programmes is important. This prioritization should be undertaken with a view to assist all mine-affected countries in their efforts to comply with the mine-clearance obligations of the Convention. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Awareness and Mine Action Technologies and the ICBL Mine Action Working Group will continue to promote this topic during future meetings of the Standing Committee.

Involve local communities in mine clearance:

The close involvement of mine affected communities in planning and implementing mine clearance operations, as well as in mine awareness and victim assistance initiatives, has been identified as central to the success of such activities. The Co-Chairs will therefore seek means to promote a greater understanding of this approach, which is outlined in the Bad Honnef guidelines and other documents, on the part of those involved in sponsoring or undertaking mine clearance operations.

Enhance the mine action capacities of affected States:

Through past efforts of the Standing Committee, it is now widely understood that the development and enhancement of mine clearance capacities at all levels within mine affected States is an important element in ensuring that States Parties can fulfil their responsibility to clear mined areas in accordance with Article 5. With a view to identifying practical means to enhance these capacities and hence ensure sustainability, the Co-Chairs will continue a dialogue on relevant matters such as the work undertaken by the UNDP and other humanitarian mine action NGOs to train mine clearance personnel as well as those involved in the management of mine action programmes.

Implement and disseminate standards for mine action:

The UN will translate and widely disseminate the UN International Standards for Mine Action (IMAS), once they are finalized, in order to ensure their widespread use and effective implementation. In addition, Co-Chairs will encourage the UN to translate and update the Standards in response to input experience from field operators.

Increase use of socio-economic analysis in planning and evaluating mine action:

To promote mine clearance being considered in the broader context of reconstruction, development and peace-building, the UNDP and the GICHD recently completed the *Study of Socio-Economic Approaches to Mine Action*. In addition, the UNDP and the GICHD will continue to develop a Handbook, which is expected to be finalized by the end of 2001. Co-Chairs will encourage parties to provide resources necessary for its translation and wide dissemination. The humanitarian mine-clearance community will seek to incorporate recent complementary initiatives on social economic analysis in planning and evaluating mine action, such as the Land Mine Impact Survey, Task Impact Assessment (NPA), and Community Liaison Mechanisms (MAG).

Enhance the dissemination of mine action information:

In order to support planning and coordination of global mine action efforts through timely dissemination of reliable information, UNMAS, with the assistance of relevant parties, will continue to develop the *Electronic Mine Information Network (E-MINE)*, launched during the Third Meeting of the States Parties. States Parties are encouraged to provide relevant information to this website.

Increase support of Landmine Impact Surveys:

Given the improved quality of information on the socio-economic impact of landmine contamination that flows from Landmine Impact Surveys and the subsequent utility of these surveys in the planning and establishment of priorities for mine clearance, the Survey Action Centre (SAC) will continue to undertake new surveys. In addition, the SAC will provide an update on its activities at the next meeting of the Standing Committee.

Improve managerial tools:

The Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) developed by the GICHD in cooperation with the UN, is an important tool for the management of mine action centres. In response to requirements from the field, GICHD will keep reviewing and updating the IMSMA programme. The GICHD will also inform the Standing Committee on the development and dissemination of the IMSMA programme.

Identify technological needs and gaps:

Different technological needs and gaps for mine clearance need to be defined, in part by establishing a priority list of user requirements for new or improved mine detection and removal systems. In this context, members of the ICBL Mine Action Working Group and the GICHD will prepare recommendations for the next meeting of the Standing Committee.

Improve the testing and evaluation of demining equipment:

The past work of the Standing Committee has resulted in the widely held understanding that research and development of mine clearance technologies should be driven by demand from the field and should take into account the need for safety, productivity, cost-effectiveness, availability and sustainability. The Co-Chairs will promote this understanding and facilitate updates on evaluations of how mine clearance equipment is consistent with this understanding.

Improve mine awareness:

The Standing Committee will continue to exchange experiences about different mine awareness programmes paying particular attention to aspects of evaluation, as well as community participation and effective coordination, building on the work of the ICBL Mine Awareness Working Group and UNICEF.

3) Stockpile Destruction

Improve the exchange of information on stockpiled anti-personnel mines:

Information regarding the existence, number and type of stockpiled anti-personnel mines throughout the world needs to be made more readily available; especially in regions of the world where a lack of information is part of the problem. The Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee, together with interested parties, will continue to focus on this topic during future meetings of the Standing Committee and to encourage more countries to provide information on their stockpiles.

Promote regional approaches to stockpile destruction:

Regional seminars and workshops have been useful in raising awareness and exchanging information on stockpile destruction, and regional initiatives like the Managua Challenge have assisted in accelerating the destruction of stockpiled mines. In an effort to build upon past successes, the Co-Chairs, with the support of other interested parties, will assess the extent to which regional approaches can be applied in various parts of the world. In addition, Canada, France and the GICHD will assist African States in planning stockpile destruction through the provision of technical expertise.

Stress the four-year deadline for completing the stockpile destruction process:

With the four-year deadline for completing stockpile destruction approaching for many States, identifying and coordinating the provision of assistance for stockpile destruction must remain a priority for the Standing Committee. In this context, the Co-Chairs will continue to stress the importance of compliance with Article 4 obligations, the political importance of this matter and the need for a productive dialogue between States in need of assistance and those in a position to provide it.

Destroy mines in an efficient and environmentally sound manner:

Certain types of anti-personnel mines, such as the PFM1 mine, can have toxic side effects when they are detonated. The process of stockpile destruction of such mines, therefore, should be carried out in an environmentally sound manner. The Co-Chairs, together with other interested parties, will continue to focus attention on environmental policies as well as risk assessment in implementing stockpile destruction programmes.

Enhance management capacity in support of stockpile destruction:

The successful implementation of stockpile destruction programmes requires a variety of particular managerial skills. As a follow-up of the first APM-Stockpile Destruction Management Training Course, Switzerland will organize a similar training course in the first half of 2002.

4) General Status and Operation of the Convention

Universalization of the Convention:

Canada, working in cooperation with other interested parties, will continue to facilitate the informal and open-ended *Universalization Contact Group* in order to coordinate efforts to promote ratifications and accessions to the Convention. In this regard, particular attention will be given to those regions where a number of countries have not yet acceded to the Convention.

Encourage compliance with Article 7:

Belgium, working in cooperation with other interested parties, will continue to facilitate the *Article 7 Contact Group* as a means to encourage high quality and on-time compliance with Article 7 reporting requirements. In this context, the Contact Group will promote the "Guide to reporting under Article 7 of the Ottawa Convention" which was developed by VERTIC as a valuable tool.

Continue dialogue on the Operationalization of Article 8:

Further to its work undertaken during the last intersessional programme on means to facilitate the clarification of concerns about compliance and the operationalization of Article 8, Canada will continue to work with interested parties on this matter.

Clarify matters pertaining to compliance concerns:

Further to discussions during the first two years of intersessional meetings regarding compliance concerns, the Co-Chairs will continue to ensure that these matters are addressed during future meetings of the Standing Committee and that States Parties be encouraged to utilize the mechanisms available in the Convention to seek clarification on allegations of possible non-compliance.

Clarify matters pertaining to mines retained under Article 3:

To further clarify the reasons why mines are retained for training and development under Article 3 and, in particular, to reaffirm the common understanding as regards the amount of mines that can be retained in a manner consistent with Article 3, the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee General Status and Operation together with other interested parties will continue to ensure that this topic is raised during future meetings of the Standing Committee.

Clarify matters pertaining to the interpretation of Article 1(c):

In order to reach a common understanding on the interpretation of the term "assist" in Article 1(c), as soon as possible, the Co-Chairs will continue to ensure that this topic is raised during future meetings of the Standing Committee and will encourage States Parties to provide information on their national views in this regard.

Promote the establishment of national implementing legislation (Art. 9):

Further to the work undertaken by the ICRC to develop an *Information Kit on the Development of National Legislation to Implement the Convention* with a view to assisting States Parties in implementing Article 9 obligations, the Co-Chairs, the ICRC, and the ICBL will continue to promote the establishment of national implementation measures and ensure the effective distribution of the *Information Kit*.

Continue a dialogue on the issue of anti-vehicle mines with sensitive fuses or with sensitive anti-handling devices:

Certain anti-vehicle mines with sensitive fuses or sensitive anti-handling devices may pose similar risks to civilian populations as anti-personnel mines. States Parties are encouraged to review the anti-vehicle mines in their inventories and to consider the relevant best practices of the type identified in the report of the ICRC hosted Expert Meeting (13-14 March 2001). The Co-Chairs and other interested parties will promote such best practices and encourage reporting on State practice in this regard. As different approaches on some issues related to the interpretation of Article 2 continue to exist, and in order to increase the understanding of this matter, the Co-Chairs and other interested parties will facilitate further dialogue on this topic.

5) Other actions

Review and improve effectiveness of the intersessional programme of work:

In order to sustain and enhance the contribution of the intersessional programme of work to the implementation of the Convention, the Coordinating Committee will consider further improvements to the format and timing of the Standing Committee meetings and means to ensure the development of action-oriented Standing Committee Programmes. In addition, the Coordinating Committee will consider the role that the Implementation Support Unit could play in supporting the Standing Committees and enhancing the effectiveness of intersessional programme of work.

Facilitate the participation of mine-affected countries:

In order to facilitate a broader participation of mine-affected countries in Meetings of States Parties and in the intersessional programme of work, the States participating in the Sponsorship Programme will continue to try to provide resources for the Sponsorship Programme and will seek to encourage the participation of other interested States.

Interpretation:

A number of States Parties have pointed out that they would be able to profit more from the deliberations during the intersessional meetings, if interpretation into different languages would be offered. The European Commission will seek to provide interpretation into French and Spanish for the intersessional meetings in Geneva in 2002.

Calendar of Events:

The Coordinating Committee will ensure that a calendar of activities that are consistent with the objectives of the Convention is kept up-to-date and will distribute this calendar at the meetings of the Standing Committees in January and May 2002.

Annex

Mine Action Calendar of Events 2001

September

18-21: Managua, Nicaragua. Third Meeting of States Parties to the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty. For ICBL contact: banemnow@icbl.org and for States Parties: UNDDA

19-21: New York, USA. UN Special General Assembly Session on Children. Contact:

24-28: Geneva, Switzerland. Convention on Conventional Weapons 3rd Preparatory Committee for 2nd CCW Review Conference. Contact: UNDDA Geneva

25 or 27 TBC: Geneva, Switzerland. Landmine Monitor Press Briefing. Contact: brigot@icbl.org

SADC Mine Action Meeting. Contact: <http://www.sadc.int> or sadcsec@sadc.int

October

2-8: Brisbane, Australia. Commonwealth People's Festival. Contact: pakpoy@chariot.net.au

5-7: Brisbane, Australia. Commonwealth ACFOA AGM (Council). Contact: <http://www.thecommonwealth.org>

6-9: Brisbane, Australia. Meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government. Contact: <http://www.thecommonwealth.org>

18-20: Brussels, Belgium. Landmine Monitor Core Group Meeting. Contact: lm@icbl.lrg

24: United Nations Day.

25-28: Seoul, Korea. Asia- Pacific Regional Landmine Monitor Researchers Meeting. Contact: kcbl@netian.com

25-29: Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. "Students for a Mine Free World" international student conference hosted by the Bosnian and Herzegovinian Medical Students' Association. Contact: sarajevoconf@usa.net or <http://welcome.to/sarajevoconf> or <http://home.talkcity.com/LibertySt/sarajevoconf/>

27-28: Aden, Yemen. MENA Regional Landmine Monitor Researchers Meeting. Contact: rbyemcad@y.net.ye

25-30: Disarmament Week.

26-28: Beirut, Lebanon. 9th Summit of the Francophonie. Contact: ghassan.salame@sommet2001.org or <http://www.sommet2001.org>. For ICBL contact: habbouba@balamand.edu.lb

TBC: Bradford, United Kingdom. Nobel Peace Prize exhibition opens at the Peace Museum. Contact: peacemuseum@bradford.gov.uk

TBC: Angola or Malawi. SADC Mine Action Committee Meeting. For ICBL Contact: masa@icbl.org

TBC: Donors conference for Eritrea (contact: Noel Mulliner, UNMAS)

November

6-8: Bangkok Thailand, South East Asian Workshop on Victim Assistance, contact Handicap International.

8-10: Yerevan, Armenia. CIS/ FSU Regional Landmine Monitor Researchers Meeting and Landmines Seminar. Contact: jemma@arminco.com.

20: Universal Children's Day.

26-30: Nairobi, Kenya. Africa Regional Landmine Monitor Researchers Meeting. Contact: kcal@africaonline.co.ke

30: Canada. Night of a Thousand Dinners. Fundraiser to be held at venues throughout Canada. Contact: 37 Clarence Street, Suite 3, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 5P4, Canada, tel. +1-613-246-2678, patricianeri@sympatico.ca, <http://www.2000dinners.com>

TBC: UN General Assembly Special Session on Disarmament.

TBC: Mozambique. SADC Workshop on Victim Assistance. For ICBL Contact: masa@icbl.org

Geneva, Switzerland: Brainstorming about the agenda for the Standing Committee Mine Clearance and Related Technologies and Mine Awareness.

November/December, TBC: Mozambique. SADC Technology Workshop. For ICBL Contact: masa@icbl.org

December

3: Events Worldwide. Fourth Anniversary of the Opening for Signature of the 1997 Landmines Convention and International Day for Disabled Persons. Contact: banemnow@icbl.org

3-7: Geneva, Switzerland. Mine Ban Treaty Intersessional Standing Committee Meetings. Contact: walker@icbl.org (for NGOs) and www.gichd.ch

3-11: Oslo, Norway. 100th Anniversary of the Nobel Peace Prize. Contact: Tel. +47 22 12 93 00 or <http://www.nobel.no>

10: Human Rights Day.

10-21: Geneva, Switzerland. CCW 2nd Review Conference. Contact: UNDDA Geneva

2001-2010: International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for Children.

TBC: Geneva, Switzerland. Convention on Conventional Weapons Amended Protocol II Annual Meeting. Contact: UNDDA Geneva

2002

January

28-1: Geneva, Switzerland. Mine Ban Treaty Intersessional Standing Committee Meetings. Contact: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining Tel: +41 22 906 1662/63 Fax: +41 22 906 1690 email: gichd@gichd.ch, <http://www.gichd.ch>, walker@icbl.org, <http://www.icbl.org/sce>

February

TBC: Thailand, Meeting on Understanding the Mine Problem in South East Asia

March

March/April, TBC: Bangladesh. Non-Aligned Movement Summit. Contact: <http://www.nonaligned.org> or Bangladesh@icbl.org

April

March/April, TBC: Bangladesh. Non-Aligned Movement Summit. Contact: <http://www.nonaligned.org> or Bangladesh@icbl.org

TBC: Global Landmine Monitor Researchers Meeting. Contact: lm@icbl.org

May

27-31: Geneva, Switzerland. Mine Ban Treaty Intersessional Standing Committee Meetings. Contact: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining Tel: +41 22 906 1662/63 Fax: +41 22 906 1690 email: gichd@gichd.ch, <http://www.gichd.ch>, walker@icbl.org, <http://www.icbl.org/sce>

June

20: World Refugee Day

July

6-10: Berlin, Germany. 115h OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Annual session. Contact: brigot@icbl.org
