

**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**

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Seventh Meeting
Geneva, 18 – 22 September 2006
Item 12 of the provisional agenda
**Informal discussions on matters
concerning the implementation
of Article 5**

**PROPOSED VOLUNTARY DECLARATION OF COMPLETION OF
ARTICLE 5 OBLIGATIONS**

Presented by Guatemala

Background

1. Statements by States Parties that they have successfully completed their Article 5 obligations are a key measure of the success of Article 5. Statements made to date vary in form, content and place of submission. An increasing variety of statements of completion could promote uncertainty over fulfillment of this central Convention obligation. A basic standard for declarations of completion of Article 5 obligations could provide greater clarity and certainty to all States Parties that the objectives of Article 5, namely the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in identified mined areas under the State Party's jurisdiction or control, have been met.
2. Language for declaring completion has been elaborated by Guatemala and the ICRC. It is proposed that the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties adopt this standard declaration as a voluntary means for States Parties to report completion of Article 5 obligations.

Proposed voluntary declaration of completion

[State] declares that it has destroyed [ensured the destruction of] all anti-personnel mines in areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines were known or suspected to be emplaced, in accordance with Article 5 of the Convention. [State] declares that it completed this obligation on [date].

In the event that previously unknown mined areas are discovered after this date, [State] will:

- (i) report such mined areas in accordance with its obligations under Article 7 and share such information through any other informal means such as the Intersessional Work Programme, including the Standing Committee meetings;
 - (ii) ensure the effective exclusion of civilians in accordance with Article 5; and
 - (iii) destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in these mined areas as a matter of urgent priority, making its needs for assistance known to other States Parties, as appropriate.
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