



16 April 2018

To: The Permanent Missions to the United Nations  
of the States Parties to the Convention

The Permanent Missions to the United Nations  
of the States not party to the Convention

Interested non-governmental and  
international organisations

Excellencies, dear friends,

In my capacity of President of the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, it is my pleasure to invite you to participate in the Convention's 2018 intersessional meetings as follows:

**Intersessional meetings**  
**7-8 June 2018**  
**World Meteorological Organisation Building**  
**Avenue de la Paix 7bis, Geneva**

When an Intersessional Work Programme was established in 1999, the aim was "to consolidate global mine action efforts to the greatest extent possible and to highlight the role of the Convention as a comprehensive framework for mine action" as well as "to organise the work within the framework of the Convention in a way which promotes continuity, openness, transparency, inclusiveness and a cooperative spirit." We have succeeded with regards to these aims to date and with the cooperation from all of you I look forward to continuing efforts in this direction.

In this regard, together with the four Committees of the Convention, we have prepared a two-day programme which provides the opportunity to States Parties that are in the process of clearing mined areas, destroying stockpiled anti-personnel mines, assisting survivors or implementing other key aspects of the Convention, to present updates. I would encourage that States Parties that are in the process of implementing key provisions of the Convention come prepared to present what additional progress they have made since we last heard from them and provide details on what remains to be done, particularly concerning objectives that could be met in time for the Fourth Review Conference in 2019.

**President of the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties**  
c/o AP Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit

In addition to the regular work of the Committees, we will have a thematic discussion on Implementation of Article 5 of the Convention. During this thematic discussion the panel will look at the implementation of mine clearance obligations of the States Parties under Article 5 of the Convention and the understandings adopted by the States Parties concerning Article 5 implementation.

Registration for the June meetings can be done on-line at [www.apminebanconvention.org](http://www.apminebanconvention.org) by **31 May 2018**.

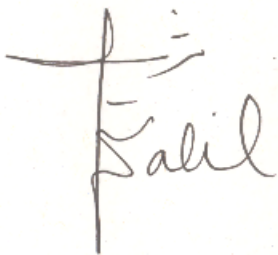
Please note that before the intersessional meetings officially start, on Wednesday 6 June, the President and the Committees will hold a series of bilateral meetings upon invitation, with relevant States and organisations.

It would be appreciated if you could indicate in advance your intention to intervene on particular items to the Implementation Support Unit. Should you have any questions about the programme, please contact the Implementation Support Unit ([isu@apminebanconvention.org](mailto:isu@apminebanconvention.org)).

In addition, as you proceed to prepare for the June meetings, I wish to kindly remind delegations of our commitment to implement the Convention with consideration of gender and diversity, as found in the introduction of the *Maputo Action Plan*. The integration of gender and diversity in our work, including the specific impact that mines have on girls, women, boys and men, and the achievement of gender equality, are crucial to the achievement of sustainable outcomes. States and international and non-governmental organisations may wish to consider such action points both in terms of the composition of their delegations with a view to gender balance, including speaking roles, as well as in the preparation and delivery of updates on their implementation effort including by reflecting on gender and diversity and mine action in statements, and, where possible, including age- and sex-disaggregated data in presentations.

I look forward to seeing you in June.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Suraya Dalil', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the typed name and title.

H.E. Suraya Dalil  
President of the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties