



Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Intersessional Meetings  
22 June – 24 June 2021  
Switzerland

**Thematic Session – Mobilizing Resources towards a Mine Free World**

Madam / Mister Chair,

We would like to thank the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance for having prepared this thematic session. As underlined by the Oslo Action Plan, enhanced cooperation and assistance are of utmost importance for the implementation of the Convention's obligations. Of course, only joint and coordinated efforts between affected States, donor States, and international, regional and non-governmental organisations will lead us to a successful realisation of our goals.

Switzerland is a long-time supporter of mine action. In 2020, we contributed some 17 million Swiss francs to the sector. We have supported the GICHD, several projects in affected countries and the reinforcement of local capacities. We promote a holistic approach to mine action, combining clearance activities with mine risk education and victim assistance, and linking these projects to broader development and humanitarian objectives. We are doing so in Colombia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Ukraine. Aside from supporting projects, we deploy mine action experts to UN missions in Western Sahara, Mali, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. We therefore try to combine a diversity of tools and instruments.

In line with Action 42 of the Oslo Action Plan, we have made efforts over the last months to expand the funding sources for mine action. Underlining the positive impact of mine action for peace promotion initiatives, we have been able to profit from resources dedicated to these initiatives. In this way, additional resources were mobilized allowing the financing of mine action projects in Sri Lanka, Georgia and Kosovo.

Finally, it is encouraging that an increasing number of affected States Parties is taking advantage of the possibilities offered by the Individualized Approach as it offers a possibility to strengthen partnerships and proceed towards the achievements of the Convention's objectives. We encourage other States Parties to do so. We also note that to strengthen the sustainability of these partnerships it is important to accompany them with a regular dialogue at the local level, in line with Action 44.

Thank you.