

**MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION
OF THE
CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF
ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

Geneva, 20 June 2011

Statement by the Delegation of Germany
on the ISU agreement between the States Parties and the GICHD

- as delivered -

Mr. Co-Chair,

Germany would like to thank the President of the 10MSP for skilfully having laid the foundation for the conclusion of an amended agreement between the States Parties and the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining regarding the ISU. We particularly thank the President for the transparent and inclusive manner in which he prepared the new agreement.

In our view, the draft agreement as it stands now entirely reflects the recommendations of the Task Force on the Evaluation of the Implementation Support Unit and the subsequent decision States Parties made at the 10MSP. The amended agreement will strengthen the competences of the ISU director and provide more clarity regarding the direct responsibility of the ISU to the States Parties. It therefore successfully completes the review of the institutional framework of the ISU, a process to which we have all dedicated significant time and resources. As the President has rightly pointed out this morning, the implementation machinery – important as it is – should not be misunderstood as being the core of the Convention.

If a majority of States Parties feels that changes to the draft amended agreement need to be made, we will not oppose those, as long as they do not jeopardize the general institutional set-up which we have all agreed to at the 10MSP, and as long as they are in line with the mandate given to the President at the 10MSP. Germany would certainly regret if we were to confuse political with operational guidance.

We hope that we will bring our discussion to a conclusion during this week, and we are looking forward to an early entry into force of the amended agreement.

Thank you, Mr. Co-Chair.

