

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATION OF THE CONVENTION

### Questionnaire for States Parties retaining anti- personnel mines in accordance with Article 3



'ending the suffering caused  
by anti-personnel mines'  
ap mine ban convention

#### Background:

The *Nairobi Action Plan* notes that “transparency and the open exchange of information have been essential pillars on which the Convention’s practices, procedures and tradition of partnership have been built,” and, that “the States Parties recognize that transparency and effective information exchange will be equally crucial to fulfilling their obligations during the period 2005-2009.”<sup>1</sup> To this end, the States Parties agreed to a number of actions, including Action #54, which states that “all States Parties will (...) in situations where States Parties have retained mines in accordance with the exceptions in Article 3, provide information on the plans requiring the retention of mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques and report on the actual use of retained mines and the results of such use.”

#### Questions:

The Co-Chairs suggest that, in the spirit of Action #54, States Parties may wish to make presentations to the Standing Committee outlining matters such as the following with respect to the mines retained in accordance with Article 3:

- The quantity and type of mines retained and the manner in which the number of mines has changed since it was recorded in the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties’ *Geneva Progress Report*.
- The purposes for which retained mines have been used and the results of this use, including for example:
  - the mine detection, clearance or destruction techniques that have been / are being developed;
  - the mine detection, clearance or destruction training that has been carried out;
  - the number of personnel trained and to what standard.
- Plans for the further development of mine detection, clearance or detection techniques and further training which would result in the use of mines retained under Article 3.

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<sup>1</sup> *Nairobi Action Plan*, paragraph 7.