



Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer  
of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON MINE CLEARANCE, MINE AWARENESS  
AND MINE ACTION TECHNOLOGIES**

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**Conclusions of the Co-Chairs  
January 29-30, 2002**

1. The discussions of the Standing Committee have clearly shown that mine awareness is closely interrelated with mine clearance and that its incorporation into this Standing Committee instead of the Standing Committee on Victim Assistance was fully justified. Mine awareness consists of more than just distributing leaflets; it has to be promoted in a broader, community based context. To emphasize this, a more accurate name is sought (proposals: mine risk education, mine risk reduction, mine risk prevention).
2. If we want to make a meaningful assessment of where we stand today in terms of the 10 year goal of the Mine Ban Treaty, we have to broaden and deepen our database. Two years before the midterm review (2004) we realise that we have to do more to bring together scattered data and to do additional research to fill existing data gaps. UNMAS, ICBL and the Landmine Monitor, supported by donors, should combine their efforts in this respect.
3. Once again, the importance of landmine surveys for affected countries has been stressed. It was noticed with satisfaction that in each of the years 2002 and 2003 seven new surveys will be undertaken. It would be welcomed if this number could further be increased.
4. This Standing Committee took note with great interest of the United Nations new mine action strategy for 2001 to 2005 presented to the 56<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly. It provides a useful framework for all actors in the field of mine action.
5. In order to come closer to the 10 year goal expressed in the Mine Ban Treaty, mine action must be further strengthened and professionalized. This requires a more co-ordinated approach involving mine affected countries, donors, NGOs and international organisations. Positive and negative experiences in country programmes should be taken into consideration more regularly and extensively. The Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Awareness and Mine Action Technologies is the most appropriate forum to exchange views in this respect. To enhance this process, the co-chairs propose to organise an in-depth presentation of one specific mine affected country at each intersessional meeting.
6. As time is running out slowly for new technological developments to be made operationable it will become more and more important to establish closer links between R & D and the field. The intersessional meetings of the Standing Committee should serve as a forum to present those developments that could offer an added value to deminers' real needs.

Co-Chairs

Standing Committee on Mine Clearance, Mine Awareness and Mine Action  
Technologies

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