We wish to commend those States which, at the Monday session of this Standing Committee and again this morning, have followed through on the commitment they made in Action #54 of the Nairobi Action Plan to provide substantive information on their plans requiring the retention of mines under Article 3 and to report on the actual use of retained mines and the results of such use.

These exchanges of information are yet another example of the high degree of transparency that has been the hallmark of this Convention and that States Parties have come to expect of each other.

We invite all those States Parties that are retaining mines pursuant to Article 3 but that have not yet provided information as called for in Action #54 to do so by the Sixth Meeting of the States Parties, and through their annual Article 7 reports.

In this regard, we salute the very constructive and practical proposal made by Argentina that States Parties make use of Form D of the Article 7 reporting format to provide information on the use and planned use of mines retained. This will greatly facilitate the application of Action #54 and enhance transparency in the implementation of Article 3.

Furthermore, we welcome the proposal made by Argentina and Chile that States Parties consider formally endorsing at the Sixth Meeting of the States Parties an amendment to Form D to facilitate reporting of the information required by Action #54.