

Canadian Statement on Cooperation and Assistance
June 2, 2008

Thank you Co-Chair

We wanted to briefly take the floor to update States Parties on the status of mine action funding in Canada. As many of you know the Canadian Landmine Fund, our traditional dedicated source of funds for the past ten years, sunset on March 31st of this year. Over the past few years we have worked hard to integrate mine action into our regular peace, security, humanitarian and development programs. We are extremely pleased to announce that this integration process has been quite successful to this point.

As an example, in 2007-2008 Canada provided more than \$51 million towards mine action – higher than any previous year and up from \$34 million the year before. Of particular note is that less than 7% of that came from the Canadian landmine Fund and the remainder from the Canadian International Development Agency's development and humanitarian funding and The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Global Peace and Security Fund.

Over the past year, we were able to fund projects in all regions of the world in advocacy, mine risk education, victim assistance, stockpile destruction and mine clearance. We will, through out the week, provide updates on these specific areas of cooperation and assistance.

Thank you.