Mr. Chairman,

First of all, thank you to give me the floor. Furthermore, in the name of the Delegation of Burkina Faso, I congratulate all those who made this intersessional meeting possible.

I would hereby like to take the opportunity to draw the attention to some of the specific tasks, which were recommended at the seminar held in February 2001 in Bamako on universalisation and implementation of the Ottawa convention - more specifically on the national reporting.

Mr. Chairman,

More specifically, I would like to stress that the Bamako seminar has underlined the importance of the national reports, as they are the best way to promote transparency and confidence among States for a successful implementation of the Convention.

Others should benefit from the experience of the Bamako seminar. Therefore it was recommended that African countries pay particular attention to national reports and inform Burkina Faso and Belgium about their focal point on this topic.

Indeed, Burkina Faso and Belgium have co-chaired a workshop on national reporting in Bamako, and during this seminar, both countries have been asked to act as focal points for the African States.

I therefore call upon the States Parties from Africa to communicate to the Delegations of Burkina Faso and Belgium the names of the persons in charge the national reporting.

Thank You, Mr Chairman.