



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**

CO-CHAIRS' NOTES TO MEETING PARTICIPANTS

May 28-29, 2002

The agenda for the May meeting builds upon the efforts undertaken by the Standing Committee at its January meeting. In particular, a focus will again be placed on the status of the implementation of the elements of the Convention relevant to this Standing Committee. In this regard, in January the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) highlighted a palpable lack of available data. Since then, a special effort has been made to obtain a more comprehensive assessment of implementation. A presentation on the status of this effort will help focus our attention on matters of greatest urgency.

With respect to better understanding the situation and needs in mine affected countries, the Co-Chairs have scheduled an opportunity for States Parties to make interventions (suggested length: 5 minutes) on plans and progress at 16:45 on Tuesday, May 28. In addition, at 11:45 on Wednesday, May 29 there will be an opportunity for States Parties and others to provide updates on cooperation and assistance (suggested length: 5 minutes). To assist the Co-Chairs in preparing speakers lists for these two agenda items, States Parties wishing to intervene should contact the Implementation Support Unit (email: k.brinkert@gichd.ch; fax: 41-22-906-1690; tel: 41-22-906-1637).

At the January meeting of the Standing Committee, many participants found useful the country case study of mine action in Afghanistan. In May, the Co-Chairs have again arranged for an in-depth country case study, with the focus this time on Mozambique. Our hope is that a variety of presentations made on Mozambique will bring to our attention lessons to be learned – good and bad – which may be of value to other States Parties and partner organizations.

Regarding other matters on the agenda, reports will be provided updating participants on various means to assist mine action efforts. In particular, updates will be provided on progress in evaluating detectors and mechanical machines and in establishing international mine action standards. In addition, an update will be provided on the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA), particularly with respect to how the IMSMA can assist mine-affected States Parties in completing portions of their Article 7 reports. With respect to mine awareness, an integrated approach will be taken again (e.g., discussing mine awareness in the context of the country case study).

The meeting will conclude with a review of the work of the Standing Committee in 2001-2002 in light of the Fourth Meeting of the States Parties. When the Intersessional Programme was established, *continuity* was mentioned as one of the key characteristics that should be part of this process. In this regard, we intend to summarize the broad priorities identified by the Standing Committee this year in order to facilitate next year's work of the Committee.