

**MINE BAN TREATY – STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MAY  
2002**  
**STATEMENT BY BRAZIL – DISCUSSION ON DRAFT COST  
ESTIMATES FOR THE FOURTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES**

1. During the meeting held last January of the Standing Committee on the Status and Operation of the Convention, Brazil supported the suggestion that the United Nations Department for Disarmament Affairs prepare a revised and reduced draft estimate for the costs of the IV Meeting of States Parties. Brazil considers that the costs of the 2<sup>nd</sup> MSP are the best reference for the costs of the next MSP.

2. As a developing country - but at the same time the ninth main contributor to the UN scale of contributions -, Brazil pays particular attention in that the MSPs be organized in the most cost-efficient manner. Given the importance of the role of the United Nations in organizing and supporting the work of the Meetings of States Parties, the revision downwards of the cost estimates should not, however, in any way create difficulties for the UN in carrying out its duties as the Secretariat of the MSPs, nor should it imply a modification of any of the roles that the Mine Ban Treaty has formally attributed to the UN. Article 11 of the Treaty makes it clear that the Meetings of States Parties are to be convened by the UN Secretary-General. DDA must be allowed to adequately perform its duties, in accordance with the Secretary-General's mandate.

3. Though we acknowledge that it is only natural that the Presidents of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> MSPs should discuss with DDA organizational and financial matters related to the next MSP, we are of the view that it is up to the States Parties to decide on matters concerning the costs of the meetings.

4. On this occasion, Brazil would like to congratulate Mr. Enrique Román-Morey as Secretary-Executive, designate, of the 4<sup>th</sup> MSP. We would like to thank the DDA once again for its invaluable role in organizing and supporting the work of the MSPs. Brazil strongly supports the role and efforts of the United Nations both in operationalizing the Mine Ban Treaty and in international mine action activities in general. States Parties must ensure that the UN is allowed properly to perform its duties and functions, in accordance with the mandates set forth by the Mine Ban Treaty.