



**Statement by
the Republic of Slovenia
at the**

**Fourth International Pledging Conference for the
Implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention**

**Geneva
26 February 2019**

Mr President, Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me start by thanking you Mr President for hosting this Fourth International Pledging Conference. In addition to the statement delivered by the European Union, I would like to make some remarks in my national capacity.

Slovenia remains fully committed to the Ottawa Convention and to the vision of a landmine free world by 2025. For this reason the Slovenian Government in 1998 established ITF Enhancing Human Security, aiming at alleviating the scourge of antipersonnel mines in mine-affected regions across the world. Over the last 20 years ITF has, with support of its donors, responded to the needs of children and adults affected by conflicts in different states and regions across the world. A number of projects have been implemented with the focus on capacity building and providing medical and psychosocial rehabilitation of victims, especially children, from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Gaza Strip, Ukraine, etc. ITF has always been among the priorities of the Slovenian Government, which continues to support ITF politically, financially and with in-kind contributions.

We firmly believe that the dire humanitarian consequences of these indiscriminate weapons can be mitigated in the future by universal adherence to the Ottawa Convention. In this connection, I would like to underline the important role of the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) in assisting States Parties to implement the Convention and fulfil their obligations arising from it.

Mr President,

I am pleased to announce that Slovenia will support the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) with an annual contribution of 5.000 Euros in the period 2019-2021. I would also like to thank the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) for their valuable and dedicated work over the past years in ensuring the effective operation of the Convention. In addition, I would also like to inform that Slovenia has already settled its assessed contribution for this year.

Finally Mr President, I would like to emphasize that Slovenia will continue to support the goal of a world free of landmines by 2025 and contribute actively to the work of the Fourth Review Conference.

Thank you Mr President.