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

26 February 2019, 13:00-15:00

Conference room XI

Palais des Nations, Geneva

**UNDP statement**

**delivered by**

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Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a pleasure for UNDP to participate in this 4<sup>th</sup> pledging conference for the Anti-personnel Mine Ban Convention.

On behalf of UNDP, let me first congratulate Norway and you, Ambassador Brattskar, in your role as President of the 4th RevCon and express UNDP's support for expanding the partnership base for mine action to 'Finish-the-job' going into Oslo.

In complement to that of sister agencies, funds, programmes, and offices UNDPs focus areas include:

- linking mine action to sustainable development and the SDGs, and emphasizing that this is not in contradiction to the centrality of protection which is imperative for people living in all affected countries, from ongoing conflict well into post-conflict settings and beyond;
- supporting national capacity development;
- supporting implementation of all aspects of the MBC has been working with national governments in over 40 affected countries for more than 30 years.

We believe strongly that the will, capabilities, and desire to fulfill the obligations and 'spirit' of the MBC exists at the national level.

Naturally, mine action costs money. As the UN's leading development agency with the mandate by the UNGA to be the SDG integrator, we are working with our country programmes and partners, at strengthening national capacities in planning, prioritizing and linking mine action to broader development plans and SDG implementation.

The rationale for this is based on our decades of work, where we have seen the benefits of mine action to development in all our previous and current support programmes through Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Iraq, Jordan, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Libya, Mauretania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, State of Palestine, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Vietnam to Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe..... to name a few.

One thing we have learned is that when mine action is 'de-siloed,' in other words mainstreamed, into broader national development plans, then domestic resources (e.g.; in-kind, political, bureaucratic, economic and private investments, diplomatic, etc.) tend to follow.

A national emphasis on mine action, requesting it as a priority for the UN Development Assistance Framework is also an indication of this ownership and often the entry point for UN support.

This breaking down of siloes is also imperative for comprehensive and sustainable survivor and victim assistance. Linking to other events at the Palais this week, at the Human Rights Council, UNDP has

- developed and issued Guidance on how to promote the rights of persons with disabilities across development work and,
- together with the International Labour Organization, we are co-facilitating a process to develop a UN system-wide policy and accountability framework to disability inclusion creating a common vision for disability inclusion in the system to have a transformative impact.

UNDP will continue to support affected states and help strengthen and improve national capacities, efficiencies, targeted development impacts and inclusion, including women, survivors and other vulnerable groups in planning and reporting.

We believe that this comprehensive approach will ensure that national ownership and leadership – corner stones of the APMBC – will be mobilized to make the Treaty an even higher success.

Thank you, Mr. Ambassador, and we look forward to supporting Norway's efforts in 2019 and beyond.

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