



Kingdom of the Netherlands



Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention 19th MSP
29/11 – 3/12 2021 Noordwijk, The Netherlands

12 February 2021

To: The Permanent Missions to the United Nations of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

Interested non-governmental and international organizations

RE: Sixth Annual Pledging Conference for the Implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, Tuesday 23 February, 12:30-14:30, Virtual

Excellencies, dear friends,

It is a great honour for the Netherlands to have been designated President of the Nineteenth Meeting of the States Parties of the *Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction*.

The Oslo Action Plan (OAP) adopted by the States Parties at the 2019 Fourth Review Conference contains several actions and associated indicators to support the successful implementation of the Convention. Action #10 of the OAP aims to ensure that the mechanisms that we have established to support implementation continue to benefit from/receive the support of the States Parties. In this regard, the Annual Pledging Conference has played an important role in providing States Parties in a position to contribute to the Implementation Support Unit (ISU) and the Convention's Sponsorship Programme an opportunity to announce their pledges of support. As the ISU functions on voluntary funding, pledges of support early in the year provide the ISU with predictability concerning contributions for the current year and allows it to carry out its tasks as planned.

Despite the ongoing global pandemic, the mine action community has continued to carry out efforts to rid the world from the threat of anti-personnel mines, showing remarkable resilience. The Pledging Conference will also provide an important opportunity for States Parties in a position to provide assistance to share information on their continued commitment to the implementation of the Convention.

With this said, I cordially invite you to join me during the:

**Sixth Annual Pledging Conference
for the Implementation of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
Tuesday 23 February, 12:30-14:30,
Virtual (additional information to be provided)**

Enclosed you will find an agenda as well as background information to support your preparations for the Pledging Conference.

You will also find an appeal for contributions to the Sponsorship Programme. I would also encourage you to consider making a contribution to the ISU and the Convention's Sponsorship Programme ahead of the Pledging Conference and have included the relevant bank information.

I would be grateful if you could confirm your participation and indicate if you would like to take the floor by sending an email to ISU at isu@apminebanconvention.org no later than **19 February 2021**. Additional information on participation will be provided to registered participants.

I look forward to your active participation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized initials and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

H.E. Robbert Gabriëlse,
Permanent Representative
of the Netherlands to the Conference on Disarmament,
Ambassador-at-large for Disarmament Affairs