

REFERENCE: ODA/26-2008/APLC

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Representative of ... to the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (APLC), which entered into force on 1 March 1999.

In accordance with the decision taken by the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention (29 November to 3 December 2004, Nairobi, Kenya), as contained in paragraph 32 (a) of the Final Report of the Conference (APLC/CONF/2004/5), meetings of the States Parties shall be convened annually until the Second Review Conference, to be held in 2009. Against this background, the Secretary-General convened the Seventh Meeting of the States Parties from 18 to 22 September 2006 in Geneva, Switzerland; and the Eighth Meeting of the States Parties from 18 to 22 November 2007 at the Dead Sea, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. As stipulated in paragraph 31 of the Final Report of the Eighth Meeting (APLC/MSP.8/2007/6), the Ninth Meeting of the States parties will be held from 24 to 28 November 2008 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Furthermore, the General Assembly, in paragraph 9 of its resolution 62/41 of 5 December 2007:

“Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the next meeting of the States parties and, pending a decision to be taken at the eighth meeting of States parties, and on behalf of the States parties and in accordance with article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the ninth meeting of the States parties as observers”.



In accordance with these provisions, the Secretary-General has the honour to convene the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention. This meeting will be held from 24 to 28 November 2008 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Secretary-General also has the honour, on behalf of the States Parties, to invite States not parties to the Convention to participate in the Ninth Meeting as observers.

The Secretary-General takes this opportunity to recall that article 14, paragraph 1, of the Convention provides as follows:

“The costs of the Meetings of the States Parties [...] shall be borne by the States Parties and States not parties to this Convention participating therein, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately”.

The details of delegations to the Ninth Meeting should be submitted, by Friday 7 November 2008, to the Secretariat of the Ninth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, at the following address:

APLC Secretariat
Ninth Meeting of the States Parties
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (Geneva Branch)
Palais des Nations, office C-113.1
1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland
Fax: 41 (0) 22 917 00 34
E-mail: aplc@unog.ch
Website: <http://www.unog.ch/disarmament/aplc>

Further information on the arrangements for the meeting will be communicated to Permanent Missions by the APLC Secretariat in due course. Any enquiries concerning the Ninth Meeting should be directed to the APLC Secretariat.

11 April 2008

S. B.