

Palau Statement on Universalization
10MSP AP Mine Ban Convention
29 Nov – 3 Dec. 2010-12-02
UN Headquarters, Geneva

Excellency,
Royal Highness Prince Mired,
Ladies and Gentlemen:

First of all, Palau would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those countries which tirelessly urged Palau to join the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention back in 2001. It took years for Palau to overcome obstacles and finally joined in 2007 at the 8th Meeting of the State Party in Jordan. Palau has begun to see the benefits of its membership to the Convention.

It is Palau's perspective that when all has been said and done and there is still no result, it is time to go to the top. Together with the GICHD, Palau is working to place the item of AP Mine Ban Treaty in the Agenda of the forthcoming meetings of the Pacific Islands Forum Summit and the Micronesia Chief Executives Summit scheduled for ~~next year~~ *the coming years*.

Palau is now working together with UNDP to organize a Workshop on the AP Mine Ban Convention and the Convention on Cluster Munitions aimed to universalize these two treaties in the Pacific, ~~set for early part next year~~, and ~~we~~ take this opportunity to appeal to the international community to ~~help finance this Workshop~~. *the civil society join & help make universalized in the Pacific a reality.*

~~We invite the international community and the civil society to join and help make this Workshop successful with results.~~

Thank you.