



19 January 2010

To: The Permanent Missions (Geneva) 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

Re: Invitation to the first meeting of the ISU Task Force

Dear friends and colleagues,

First of all I would like to thank you all for working together with Colombia and Norway to ensure the success of the Cartagena Summit on a Mine-Free World. The Second Review Conference was indeed a milestone where we reviewed and achieved important results. Now the time has come to use the Cartagena Action Plan to continue our implementation of the Convention, to achieve better results for all those affected by anti-personnel mines.

As you will recall, the Second Review Conference endorsed the President's Paper on the Establishment of an open ended Task Force with a mandate to develop terms of reference for an evaluation of the Implementation Support Unit, as contained in document number APLC/CONF/2009/8/Rev.1 (attached) and as Part V of the Conference's Final Report.

It is therefore my pleasure to invite the outgoing and incoming Presidencies of the Convention, the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs of the Standing Committees, the Contact Group Coordinators, the Sponsorship Programme Coordinator as well as other interested States Parties to the first meeting of the ISU Task Force which will take place on Wednesday 10 February from 1000 to 1300 at the Hotel Intercontinental, Geneva.

Please inform Ms. Rigmor Blattner at the Permanent Mission of Norway in Geneva, rib@mfa.no, if you wish to participate in the meeting.

The objective of the meeting will be to agree on the working methods of the Task Force based on the above-mentioned paper on its establishment, and to agree on the terms of reference on the basis of which the independent evaluation will take place and an independent consultant can be hired. As you are aware, the Task Force will present a preliminary status report to the Meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operation of the Convention in June 2010 and it is therefore essential that the evaluation commence as soon as possible. I will distribute the relevant documents closer to our meeting. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to working with you in the coming year, and hope for your continued active and constructive engagement in our important tasks ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Ambassador Susan Eckey
President of the Second Review Conference

President of the Second Review Conference & Chair of the Coordinating Committee
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