

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON VICTIM ASSISTANCE
AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION**

Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs (Peru and Turkey)

24 June 2010

I will keep my closing remarks brief as time has got away from us.

Through the Cartagena Action Plan 2010-2014, the States Parties have resolved to provide adequate age- and gender-sensitive assistance to mine victims, in accordance with applicable international humanitarian and human rights law.

Progress in achieving the aims of the Cartagena Action Plan will involve the engagement of all the relevant ministries and other key actors in the disability sector.

This collaboration is essential to not only develop but actually implement a comprehensive plan of action based on specific and measurable objectives.

Survivors and other persons with disabilities must be a part of this process.

Listening to the interventions and discussions this week it is clear that work is ongoing at the national level to implement the Cartagena Action Plan.

It is very encouraging to hear how many languages our predecessors, Belgium and Thailand's recommendations paper on the Cartagena Action Plan is now available in.

If I remember correctly we can list: Albanian, Arabic, Dari, English, French, Khmer, Pashtu, Portuguese, Spanish, and Tajik,

However, we must maintain the momentum to ensure that what we discuss in Geneva is translated into actions on the ground to improve the quality of daily life of survivors, the families of those killed or injured, and other persons with disabilities.

It is clear that our discussions tomorrow during the special session on cooperation and assistance are particularly important to ensure that we can truly make progress in achieving the aims of the Cartagena Action Plan.

To conclude, on behalf of my Co-Chair, I would like to thank everyone who had contributed to the work of this Standing Committee.

Since Monday we have had the opportunity to listen and learn from experts working on victim assistance-related issues at the national and international level and from States in a position to assist.

The discussions have been rich and I believe productive and will help guide our work as Co-Chairs in the lead-up to the Tenth Meeting of the States Parties.

We look forward to hearing reports of concrete progress in achieving the aims of the Cartagena Action Plan in November.

The Standing Committee on Victim Assistance and Socio-Economic Reintegration is now adjourned.

Enjoy your evening.