

12MSP



31 May 2012

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 international and non-governmental organizations

Re: Preparations for the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties

Excellencies, dear friends,

It was an honour to present to you, at the meeting of the Standing Committee on the General Status and Operations of the Convention on 25 May, my proposed approach to the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties (12MSP) and a draft 12MSP programme and agenda. As I mentioned last Friday, the Convention is at a point in time that is half-way between the landmark Cartagena Summit in 2009 and our Third Review Conference in 2014. As such, we have the opportunity with the 12MSP to conduct a mid-term assessment of our efforts, recording the challenges that we have encountered and the work that remains in meeting our Cartagena Action Plan commitments.

My sense is that there was general satisfaction with respect to what I had presented to you and I will now proceed on this basis. In doing so, I look forward to working closely with all interested delegations. Regarding next steps, I wish to recall the following from my presentation to you last week:

- I will proceed in drafting the Geneva Progress Report. In doing so, I will draw extensively on Article 7 transparency reports and the updates provided by States Parties during the meetings of the Standing Committees. I may also write to delegations to request additional input. Should you have any initial suggestions for this document, please provide input to me by 15 June. I will distribute a draft Geneva Progress Report in August.
- The draft Geneva Progress Report and other matters of substance regarding the 12MSP will form the basis of the agenda for an informal preparatory meeting in Geneva on Monday 3 September from 15:00 to 18:00.

President-Designate of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties
c/o AP Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit

- I have proposed that meetings of the Standing Committees in 2013 take place the week of 13 to 17 May and that the Thirteenth Meeting of the States Parties (13MSP) take place either from 25 to 29 November or from 2 to 6 December 2013. Should you have any views on these dates, please provide your input to me by 15 June.

Once again, please allow me to thank you for your support. I look forward both to receiving your input on preparations for the 12MSP and as well as working closing with you throughout the year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matjaz Kovacic', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matjaž Kovačič
President-Designate of the Twelfth Meeting of the States Parties