



REPÚBLICA DE ANGOLA
COMISSÃO NACIONAL INTERSECTORIAL DE DESMINAGEM E
ASSISTENCIA HUMANITÁRIA

STATEMENT

OF HER EXCELLENCE AMBASSADOR
MARIA DE JESUS DOS REIS FERREIRA
AT THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE
STATES PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF
THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION
AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL
MINES AND THEIR DESTRUCTION

21 DECEMBER 2017
VIENNA-AUSTRIA

MR. PRESIDENT,
EXCELLENCIES
LADIES AND GENTLEMENT

First of all, allow me on behalf of the Delegation of the Republic of Angola and on my own, to congratulate the People and Government of Austria for holding this important conference, which gathers hundreds of Mine Action stakeholders together, in this beautiful city of Vienna.

Mr. President,

I would like to thank for the positive decision taken by the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties upon our Second Extension Request.

The Republic of Angola as a State Party to the Ottawa Convention on the ***Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and their Destruction***, has sought to fulfill its commitments satisfactorily.

For the Angolan Government, demining the country and declaring it free of landmines, is one of the top priorities, due to the pressing need of free movement of people and goods throughout the national territory and also enhancement of the agriculture sector which is one of the keys for development.

Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen

Angola is experiencing a challenging moment, firstly since it has a limited time, just eight years, to deal with the remaining problem in the light of the Maputo Declaration 2014, in which States Parties expressed their ambitious intention to eliminate the problem of landmines in the world by 2025.

Angolan Government is increasingly engaged in mobilizing public and private resources in order to implement the tasks of the Plan attached to this request, committing itself to allocate its limited

resources to these efforts, once there are no funds secured for the post 2018 period.

The Government with the support of international donors will also carry out resource mobilization efforts, nationally and internationally, encouraging the implementation of Article 6 to attain the necessary resources to address the remaining challenge.

The compliance of this Extension Request is undoubtedly a shared responsibility of all of us. Angola commits itself to submit to the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties next year, an updated work plan for the remaining period covered by the extension request.

Finally, we would like to sincerely thank for the support that has been provided to Angola, by:

- The Implementation Evaluation Committee of the Article 5 of the Convention
- Implementation Support Unit (ISU)
- Genève International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
- US State Department
- The Government of Japan, United Kingdom
- The European Union.
- The Government of Norway

A special thanks goes also to all anonymous entities who have been supporting the Angolan Mine Action Programme, please accept our sincere thanks!

Together for a Mine-free world by 2025

Thank You so much.

