

**17TH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE,
STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR
DESTRUCTION**

Geneva, 26 – 30 November 2018

Statement under Item 9c) Cooperation and Assistance

(check with delivery)

Thank you Mr. President for giving me the floor,

Germany aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union. Please allow me to make a few comments in a national capacity.

Germany would like to commend the work of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance for their valuable work and their recommendations that are geared towards further increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of States Parties' work.

In this context Germany would like to renew its commitment to international cooperation as one essential tool to realize our shared ambition of a world free of landmines by 2025.

The other side of the medallion is national ownership and the primary responsibility of every States Party to address their national challenges. For that a national action plan that takes into account the newest techniques in land release methodology is essential.

Another instrumental tool for our common success are strategies that allow to guide our actions and focus our resources. In this spirit we have updated our national strategy on Humanitarian Mine Action. The new strategy will reflect the changes that have taken place both within the sector itself and with regard to the increase in global demand for support in mine action. It will maintain a dual focus on acute humanitarian crises and on countries where we need to intensify our joint efforts in order to “finish the job”. One additional tool to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of our support will be the formation of Country Coalitions with affected countries.

In this context, Germany has maintained a high level of financial support for mine action projects around the world. In 2018 Germany has provided 36 million Euros for projects in 13 countries and regions. German-funded activities focus on the full spectrum of mine action: survey and clearance of landmines and ERW; mine risk education; mine victim assistance; and advocacy. Germany works with specialized NGOs, the ICRC and international organisations, such as UNMAS. Germany will continue its efforts in the area of mine action and will continue to assist affected partners in the run up to 2025.

Thank you Mr. President.