

Mr President

First of all, allow me to congratulate you for assuming the Presidency of the Mine Ban Convention.

Germany has been a leading actor in the worldwide fight against anti-personnel mines and assistance to mine victims, including in my own country. Cambodia welcomes your leadership which will surely add to a successful road to the Fifth Review Conference.

We welcome the holding of this pledging conference as the ISU play a vital role in implementation efforts. At this time Cambodia would like to thank the ISU for its support to the Cambodia Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority. Although Cambodia is not in a position to pledge support today to the ISU's 2023 workplan, the Cambodian government is considering a symbolic voluntary contribution. We would encourage others to do the same.

At this time, it is my honour to inform you that Cambodia is working together with the ISU to host a Global Conference on the Rights of Mine Victims and other Persons with Disabilities. which will take place from 17-19 October of this year in Phnom Penh. We welcomed a visit this week from the ISU Director and his team to Phnom Penh to support the CMAA in arranging the logistics for the Global Conference.

A "save the date" will soon be distributed to all States and relevant organization to join us in Cambodia.

We hope to welcome more than 120 international participants plus nearly a third more from Cambodia.

We want to take this opportunity to thank the European Union for supporting this global conference in Phnom Penh and trusting such high endeavour to Cambodia.

Dear friends,

Cambodia remains fully committed to both, the Oslo Action Plan, and the letter of the Convention.

As called for in the Oslo Action Plan, Cambodia has developed innovative partnerships for mine action including with the private sector. We look forward to informing more on this during the upcoming intersessional meetings and in Cambodia's annual transparency report.

We are also working on close partnership with other States, including in training deminers from Ukraine here in Cambodia; as well as through south-south and triangular cooperation models.

We also want to thank donor States, for their bilateral and multilateral efforts which have helped maintain and increase operation levels in Cambodia. This is particularly important as we are now moving full steam towards the ambitious goal of a 2025 mine-free Cambodia.