

ISU INTEVENTION REVIEW CONFERENCE

Thank you very much Mr. President for offering the ISU the floor.

Madam Secretary, Excellencies, dear Colleagues, on behalf of ISU staff members, I would like to thank you for joining us today. Your support to the work of the Implementation Support Unit and to the overall implementation of the Convention deeply appreciated.

As many of you are well aware the ISU is a small unit with limited human resources. We seek to support States Parties to the fullest extent possible in line with the human / financial resources available to the ISU. Needless to say we do not take your States support to the Unit for granted.

In 2022 we were grateful to received financial support from the 23 States Parties **Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.**

Your support in 2022 ensured that our work plan in 2022 was fully funded and allowed us to continue our work in supporting the implementation of the Convention. Thank you as well to Switzerland which provides, not only a contribution to the work plan and sponsorship program, but provide core support to the unit to be housed within the GICHD.

And we thank the GICHD for its support to the unit in this regard.

I also take this opportunity to thank the European Union for its important support to implementation of the Convention and the Oslo Action Plan

through its Council Decision project, which the ISU is implementing, and which has allowed us to support a number of States in hosting national stakeholder dialogues on Victim Assistance and Mine Clearance amongst other issues in implementation of the Convention. This Council Decision allowed the ISU to hire additional personnel, specifically for the implementation of the project and contributes its effective implementation.

With this said, I take this opportunity to inform you that the final report of the ISU for 2022 should be available once the audit is complete in the next weeks and will be shared with the States Parties shortly after this.

Dear colleagues,

The ISU's Work Plan and Budget is drafted within the framework of the ISU's Five-Year Work Plan adopted by the Fourth Review Conference which took place in Oslo in 2019. This plan will ensure that the ISU can achieve its objectives of:

- Providing support to the President and the Committees of the Convention in the implementation of their respective mandate associated with implementation of Article 5 of the Convention, Victim Assistance, Cooperation and Assistance, Cooperative Compliance, Universalization and other Convention related matters.
- Provide direct support to States Parties in translating the commitments of the Convention into the work they are carrying out in their respective countries.
- It allows us to carry out our mandate of communicating to the public, including States not party, on the Convention and

partnering with relevant organization that carry out Convention implementation efforts.

- Support the successful planning and execution of the Intersessional Meeting and the Meeting of the States Parties and preparations for the Review Conference in 2024. This also included providing support to the Sponsorship Programme Coordinator (Australia); and
- To ensure Record keeping support on matters related to the Convention and decisions by the States Parties.

These are only part of our efforts, and as I mentioned earlier, we do our best to carry our mandate out with the human and financial resources provided to the ISU.

The work plan for 2023 has an estimated budget of CHF 732'596. Of this total 88% will cover the salaries of the 3.6 full time equivalent members of the ISU and 12% will cover additional activities of the ISU in support of States Parties including travel, communication, interpretation and translation, room rentals etc....

Finally, Excellencies, dear Colleagues, the ISU looks forward to supporting your efforts throughout 2023 and beyond. This is particularly exciting for us as we head towards the Fifth Review Conference in 2024.

We would also encourage all States to consider a contribution to the ISU, as mentioned by the President and referenced by the Oslo Action Plan. Any amount, even symbolic would be welcome.

Please let us know how we can facilitate a contribution from your State.

Also, please do not hesitate to contact the ISU for any additional information on our work plan or how we undertake our work in support States Parties in their implementation efforts.

Thank you, Mr. President,