

Intervention on behalf of
the Committee of Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance
H.E. Mr. Rongvudhi Virabutr
Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative
the 8th Annual Pledging Conference for the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
Friday 24 March 2023, 15.00-17.00 hrs.,
Room XVIII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Mr. President,

1. As **the Chair of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance for 2023**, Thailand has the pleasure to work together with Algeria, Japan and the Netherlands. The Committee was established in order to **assist and support the States Parties to effectively implement Article 6 the cooperation and assistance**, as ending the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines is a shared commitment.

2. Cooperation and assistance have always been one of the main obligations indicated in the APMBC. The Oslo Action Plan, namely Actions 42-47, also provides reaffirmation of the importance of cooperation and assistance as a key to get us closer to the completion of the time-bound obligation.

3. To achieve such goals, the Committee had supported the Presidency of the 19th Meeting of State Parties, the Netherlands, in **establishing the informal Cooperation and Assistance Fund (CAF)**. The Netherlands then made the first contribution of 20,000 Swiss Franc to the Fund.

4. The CAF, aims to **promote the implementation of Action 47 of the Oslo Action Plan** which encourages States Parties to “explore opportunities for cooperation”, including “cooperation between affected States Parties or South-to-South, with a view to voluntary sharing of best practices and lesson learned.”

5. The fund will provide opportunity for **State Parties to apply for financial support to assist the sharing of best practices and lessons learnt through study visits or sponsoring of experts to third countries.**

6. In this connection, as the CAF is funded through voluntary contributions, we wish to call upon those States and organizations that are in the position to do so **to contribute to this Fund**. Please contact ISU for further information on how you could make contribution to the Fund.

7. I thank you.
