



Statement of the Netherlands

on the

Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance

2023 Intersessional Meetings, 19 June 2023

Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Submitted in writing.

In addition to the statement delivered by the EU, the Netherlands would like to add the following in its national capacity.

The Netherlands has a longstanding track record of funding mine action in different parts of the world.

Our current multi-annual Mine Action and Cluster Munitions Programme runs from 2020 to 2024 and is now valued at 51 million Euros. This NGO programme will allocate funding for nine countries, namely Ukraine, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Libya, South Sudan, Somalia and Lao PDR. Part of this programme is a 10 million Euros contingency fund that is open to the NGO partners in the programme, and is meant for emergency situations, innovative activities and the individualized approach. The programme has a strong focus on both gender and capacity building and is closely aligned to action item 45 of the Oslo Action Plan.

As part of our comprehensive and substantial efforts to meet the pressing needs in Ukraine, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has earmarked an additional amount of 20 million Euros for Mine Action in Ukraine. Of this amount, 6 million Euros will be spent through our Mine Action and Cluster Munitions Programme. An amount of 14 million Euros will be donated to UNDP and is mainly intended to support Ukraine's

Government services working in Mine Action with demining equipment, training and assistance in coordination.

In addition to our regular, yearly contribution to APMBC ISU and the sponsorship programme, The Netherlands has pledged to contribute with 10,000 Euros to the Cooperation and Assistance Fund (CAF) this year.

This Cooperation and Assistance Fund, which was established under the Netherlands' 19th MSP presidency, will help mine-affected countries to exchange experiences and technical knowledge. Affected states parties have a wealth of experience in implementing their obligations under the convention. Making use of these best practices and facilitating knowledge and experience sharing amongst affected states can help the implementation of the Convention forward.

We call upon other states parties in a position to do so, to also contribute to this Cooperation and Assistance Fund.

Thank you Mr. President.