

ON UNIVERSALIZATION

Mr. President,

While the majority of states have joined the Convention, it is regrettable that it is not yet universal. Canada strongly believes that full universalization of the Convention is the only sustainable path towards a world free of landmines.

We remain firmly committed to advancing the goals of the Ottawa Convention which includes its universalization. We believe that steps must be taken to encourage the remaining states outside the Convention to join the Treaty and complete its universalization. We remain ready and available to assist any state who has not yet done so, to join our Convention.

In this regard, we are pleased to be participating in the Universalization Coordination Group, and to be contributing to outreach efforts in the Indo-Pacific region in particular. Together, we can help build momentum towards a new push for universalization, and we welcome your efforts to promote universalization among non-State Parties.

Universalization will only succeed on the strength of our collective effort, and we call on other States Parties to contribute wherever they can.

I thank you.