

**Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and
Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction**

Fifth Review Conference, Siem Reap, 25-29 November 2024

Re-committment

Statement by Austria

Mr. President,

Austria is fully aligned with the statements on behalf of the European Union.

As we close the Fifth Review Conference in the beautiful city of Siem Reap, we once more wish to commend you, Mr. President, your team and the country of Cambodia for your hospitality in organizing this Conference. As an affected State and a global leader on mine action yourself, Cambodia has set an inspiring example of hope for affected communities everywhere, by putting survivors and affected communities at the forefront of our efforts, and condemning anti-personnel mines into a museum, where they belong.

Mr. President,

Austria solemnly renews its full commitment to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. The legal norms established by the Convention go far beyond the States Parties. Every day its impressive accomplishments make a difference on the ground.

Austria has been fully engaged since the drafting process of our lifesaving Convention and continued to contribute to its effective implementation and universalization ever since through humanitarian mine action and by taking up responsibilities within the Convention's machinery as Presidency of the First Review Conference and the 16th Meeting of States Parties, or in Committees. We recommit to these efforts today and are honoured to contribute to the Committee on Victim Assistance in the years to come. In the spirit of cooperation and assistance that is the hallmark of our Convention, we will continue to assist victim assistance, mine clearance and mine risk education efforts.

Mr. President,

We join together here in Siem Reap to celebrate the unprecedented partnership among survivor representatives, states, UN and ICRC, humanitarian actors and civil society bringing our Convention to life and to adopt a powerful Siem Reap - Angkor Political Declaration and Action Plan to ensure that the foundation we built, will not be upset by the deeply concerning erosion of norms that we see today. As challenges remain and evolve, it becomes all the more necessary that our Convention's community works closely together to achieve even better results on the ground. For this, together we must ensure the full integrity of our Convention and reinforce the strong norms on the prohibition of development, production, stockpiling, transfer and use of anti-personnel mines inside our community and to vocally defend them to the outside. We owe it to the survivors and all those affected by anti-personnel mines to end the suffering of all humans from anti-personnel mines.

I thank you.