



**Fifth Review Conference of the States Parties to the
Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling,
Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on
their Destruction**

25-29 November 2024

Siem Reap, Cambodia

Statement by Ireland on Cooperation and Assistance

President,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Committee on the Enhancement of Cooperation and Assistance for their ongoing work and efforts to promote dialogue between all stakeholders and to strengthen partnerships between States in a position to provide assistance.

Ireland welcomes the findings of the Committee's work and in particular the proposal for a National Mine Action Platform as a way to strengthen the Individualised Approach to cooperation and assistance. It is crucial to tailor assistance to the unique needs of the receiving State and to work with those States to ensure assistance is as effective as it can be. Strong national ownership and international cooperation and assistance are essential for the continued success of the Convention.

We welcome the Actions on international cooperation and assistance in the Oslo Action Plan and fully support the commitment in the Political Declaration for States to strive to strengthen partnerships and increase resources, assistance and national and international funding.

President,

International cooperation and assistance is a core component of the necessary efforts to achieve the aim of a world free of anti-personnel mines. The presence of landmines, including anti-personnel mines, constitutes a threat to human security and a serious impediment to development and rehabilitation in post-conflict societies. Moreover, as increasingly witnessed by a variety of actors, landmines pose an often insurmountable obstacle to humanitarian operations, denying access to populations in need.

Ireland has a long-standing record of providing financial and operational assistance and support to humanitarian mine action. Ireland has provided over €65 million in funding for humanitarian demining since 2006, on clearance, risk education, capacity building, and victim assistance. This funding has contributed to projects in Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Columbia, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Mozambique, Myanmar, Serbia, Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Vietnam and Zimbabwe.

President,

The removal of landmines prevents casualties, creates pathways for humanitarian assistance and frees communities from fear. It also paves the way for these communities to develop their land and create

agricultural and economic opportunities. Thus, humanitarian demining forms a key part of our efforts in achieving the goals set out by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all our humanitarian mine action work is an important aim for Ireland. We are pleased to have continued our support for programmes which promote gender diversity in the work of the Convention and other disarmament instruments.

Ireland continues to support financially the work of the Convention's Implementation Support Unit . The ISU play a vital role supporting the implementation and universalisation of the Convention and we hope to see a large number of states continue to support the ISU in the forthcoming Review period.

Thank you