



**INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS**  
**TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING,**  
**PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR**  
**DESTRUCTION**

Geneva, 18 – 20 June 2024

**Agenda item 4 – Matters related to the mandate of the Committee on the Enhancement of  
Cooperation and Assistance**

Chair

[Germany fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. We would like to add a few aspects in our national capacity.]

Coordination and cooperation are key for long term success in and through mine action. Germany is a **firm supporter of international coordination and cooperation** based on a **partnership approach** – among donors, with affected states and communities, and with implementing partners.

Earlier this year, on April 4 – International Mine Awareness Day – the Federal Foreign Office has adopted a **strategy for humanitarian mine action**.

For the first time, this strategy explicitly **combines two goals**. On the one hand, it is the **immediate protection of the affected population**. On the other hand, it is facilitating **stabilisation, reconstruction, peacebuilding and sustainable development** – for example by jointly **developing national capacities and structures**

for humanitarian mine action. In doing so, we are **recognising the inherent nexus character of the sector** and the importance of enhancing cooperation.

This year, the Federal Foreign Office will provide over **EUR 70 million for humanitarian demining and explosive ordnance clearance**, mainly for our **11 priority countries** Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ethiopia, Iraq, Cambodia, Colombia, Sri Lanka, Somalia, South Sudan, Ukraine and Zimbabwe as well as the acute humanitarian crises in Gaza and north-east Syria. Through our funding, we enable our partners to **use the full range of humanitarian demining instruments** in line with their needs.

As **second largest bilateral donor** for humanitarian mine action and removal of explosive remnants of war, Germany stands ready to **assume responsibility globally together with our partners and the affected countries**. We want to jointly develop momentum and initiative, further develop standards and engage in critical and constructive discussion. From **innovative financing opportunities involving the private sector to support for countries on the last mile** to being free from mines – we want to **foster solutions together with the affected people**. In concrete terms, this also means coordination: Bringing our strategy and the national strategies of others together and **identifying common priorities**. [For example, together with our Ukrainian partners, we have identified mine victim assistance as a gap in international support, which we will now tackle as a champion among international partners together with our Ukrainian colleagues and our implementation partners.]

**Donor coordination** is of utmost importance. As G7 Chair in 2022, we took over the coordination of donor support for Ukraine, which has now become a Ukrainian-led process. We have also done this at the **Ukraine Recovery Conference** in Berlin two

weeks ago, with a **panel on the importance of humanitarian demining for the civilian population, reconstruction and human capital** in Ukraine. We also want to continue this active role in the international community in the coming years – also through further intensified cooperation between Berlin and the missions abroad.

For all of this, we need multiannual financial support for humanitarian mine action – from the international community, affected countries, and also through private sector investments.

Last but probably most importantly, I would like to highlight that none of our commitment would be possible without the **outstanding work of our humanitarian partner organisations**. Their teams work on the minefields and increasingly in still active conflicts to protect and ensure the safety of local people - they bring our commitment to life and have a direct impact every day.

Thank you, Chair