

TENTH INTERNATIONAL PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN CONVENTION

Geneva, 12st March 2025

Pledges and Commitment by Germany

Madam President,

Germany wishes to thank you, Ambassador Ichikawa Tomiko, for your commitment as President of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention. I would also like to assure you of the full cooperation and support of my delegation in your work.

Germany fully aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union. I would like to deliver additional elements in my national capacity.

Germany welcomes the impressive work done by the ISU in supporting States Parties in fulfilling their obligations under the Convention. The ISU has a crucial role in the functioning of the Ottawa Convention and on our way to a mine-free world. We attach great importance to securing stable and sustainable funding for the activities of the ISU so that it can carry out its core support functions efficiently and in a cost-effective manner.

Therefore, Germany has supported the ISU on a regular basis in the past. Germany is prepared to continue its support of the ISU also in the future. However, due to early federal elections in Germany that took place just two and a half weeks ago, the German federal government can only dispose of a part of this year's budget at the moment. I am glad that, despite these very challenging circumstances, we have managed to secure

a firm commitment for funding for ISU at this point. <u>I can announce that Germany</u> will provide 22.500 EUR for core support functions of the ISU. I am confident that we will be able to increase funding from Germany once the regular budget has been adopted.

Madam Coordinator of the Sponsorship Programme,

Germany is committed to the effective implementation and the universalisation of this Convention and continues to be a member of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance, the Universalisation Group and the Coordinating Committee. Being able to participate in relevant meetings of the Convention, and continuing engagement and cooperation between States Parties is decisive when trying to fulfil obligations under this Convention. To allow an engagement in the most inclusive way and in order to jointly progress on our path to universalisation and a mine free world, **Germany has contributed 76.000 EUR to the Sponsorship Programme in 2024**. Due to the above mentioned lack of a regular budget, Germany cannot commit to a specific amount of support to the Sponsorship Programme at this point, unfortunately. Securing funding for the Sponsorship Programme will be one of our priorities once the German federal budget has been adopted, and I am confident that we will be able to contribute to this valuable programme.

Madam President,

Germany has been providing substantial assistance within the framework of this convention and will continue to do so. In 2024 alone, the German Federal Foreign Office provided around 70 million EUR for humanitarian mine action in more than 11 countries worldwide. Our funding is guided by our strategy and the respective goals of protecting affected people from the heinous dangers of unexploded ordnance and mines, facilitating humanitarian assistance in contaminated areas, and enabling reconstruction, stabilization, post-conflict peace-building as well as sustainable

development. The needs of all affected people, in all their diversity, including victims, are paramount to us. Additional themes that are of importance to us are efficiency and safety in mine action operations, conflict sensitivity, empowering national actors in affected states and innovation.

To build on our substantial engagement over the past decades and to support the further implementation of the Ottawa Convention, Germany will continue to engage in the Convention and our financial support for humanitarian mine action.

Thank you, Madam President.