

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

**STATEMENT**

**Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention**

**22<sup>ND</sup> MEETING OF THE STATE PARTIES**

**01-05 DECEMBER 2025**

**Consideration of the general status and operation of the Convention**

**Agenda Item 9 b)iii Report on the progress made to explore the feasibility of establishing a voluntary trust fund**

Thank you Madam President.

We would like to express particular thanks to the Working Group for their continued work under Norway's leadership to explore the feasibility of this proposal. We recognise the significant thinking that has been done so far, and appreciate the progress made.

The UK recognises that despite a record amount of funding for mine action last year, the overall global funding picture is not quite so positive. We also recognise that the way that funding for mine action is disbursed can leave some states with less support than others, including those close to fulfilling their obligations under Article 5. There are no easy solutions.

We believe that there is merit in further exploring the idea of a voluntary trust fund. However, we also continue to believe that there is more work that could be done to understand the demand and support for a fund, and how successful it might be in practice. Any new mechanism will only be successful if it can attract and facilitate donors – whether new or existing – who are able to provide funding. This requires understanding of what will drive donors and not cut across existing programmes. No two donors, or potential donors, will make decisions in the same way.

We should continue to consider the merits of multiple solutions in this space, and where possible, how they might complement one another. For example, the UK continues to support work to develop innovative financing programmes, and we are supporting the GICHD to develop options for front-loading models, both areas which



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could be considered alongside this fund. These programmes could remove some of the barriers which may exist which currently prevent funding being prioritised to some countries or towards clearance in certain contexts as stand-alone activities.

We stand ready to contribute further to the consultation process and look forward to seeing further progress.