

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

**Intersessional Meeting
17-20 June 2025**

Intervention by Denmark

Thank you, Chair,

Denmark fully aligns itself with the statements made by the European Union.

Allow me at the outset to address the issue of withdrawals from the Convention. We are concerned about the possible effects of any withdrawal from the Convention and we regret the development. At the same time, we recognize that decisions have been taken amid a deteriorating security environment, driven by Russia's illegal, unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine.

Chair, let me reiterate that Denmark continues to be fully committed to the Convention, the ban against anti-personnel mines and the goal of achieving a world free of anti-personnel mines, and free of any new victims.

Thousands are killed or injured by landmines every year, and more often than not the victims are civilians, many of them children. Contamination leaves a lasting impact on communities beyond their initial placement, affecting development and delivery of services for decades.

Denmark has a long history of support for humanitarian mine action with Danish civil society organizations active in some of the most difficult contexts. With support from Denmark, Danish Church Aid and Danish Refugee Council are implementing programs to the benefit of thousands of civilians – and in close coordination with national authorities.

Chair, Denmark also supports UNMAS with an annual core contribution. A priority area for our cooperation is ensuring that coherent approaches to mine action are delivered with a prioritized focus on the rights and potential of girls and women in line with UN Security Council resolution 1325.

Further, Denmark provides an earmarked contribution to UNMAS in the important work to remove Unexploded Ordnances after the war against ISIL for the displaced families to be able

to return home. The support includes technical advisory support to the Government of Iraq and implementation through national NGOs.

In 2025, Denmark has also provided extraordinary contributions for humanitarian mine action activities in Ukraine of a total 20 mio. DKK [aprox. 2,6 mio. EUR] implemented through strategic partnerships with Danish civil society organizations.

Danish support to humanitarian mine action is one of several instruments that contribute to securing peace, stabilization and development as well as responding to humanitarian needs.

Finally, we are certain that integrated programming needs to be underpinned by flexible funding models. Humanitarian Mine Action partners need multiyear and flexible funding so they can adjust operations to local needs over multiple years. This programming strategy is key for the Danish approach to humanitarian mine action and we encourage other donors to consider flexible funding approaches as well.

Thank you, Chair.