

BE Statement – APMBC Intersessional 17-20/6/25
**Agenda item 6. Matters related to the mandate of the Committee
on Cooperative Compliance**

Madam President,

Thank you for allowing me to provide an update on the actions taken by Belgium as the Gender Focal Point of the Committee on Cooperative Compliance.

Excellencies,

Dear members of the mine-action community,

As you heard from all the gender focal points, the Siem Reap-Angkor Action Plan continued strengthening the commitment of States Parties to ensure the inclusion of gender and the diverse needs of mine affected communities into the implementation of our convention obligations. It was welcome to hear that each Committee indicated progress in this regard. Nevertheless, they also indicated that we can still do better. Doing better in this regard, means ensuring that we more efficiently and effectively meet the objectives of the Convention.

Reporting is key, as it is the only way we are able to track our progress towards our collective goal. In this regard, the Committee annually holds a workshop on reporting, which we held earlier this year. During this workshop, we underlined the importance of reporting on gender commitments, and how we take into account the diverse needs of people in mine affected communities, including landmine survivors.

In this regard, we encouraged State to look closely at the commitments we have made and ensure that we report in a manner that will respond to the indicators of the Action Plan, whether that be reporting in a disaggregate manner, or on how we ensure the involvement of people from mine affected communities, including girls, women, boys and men, as well as landmine survivors, into our implementation and reporting efforts.

From within the Committee on Cooperative Compliance Belgium has also opted for a transversal approach, looking at those gender-related aspects that transcend individual committee mandates.

Together with the other Gender Focal Points, we decided to continue the recent practice of Cross-Regional Joint Statements on Gender and Diversity during the Intersessional and Meeting of the States Parties. As we celebrate 25 years of the Women Peace and Security Agenda this year, we paid particular attention to these synergies in the joint statement. This statement will be delivered on Friday morning, and is still open for co-sponsorship.

Furthermore, the Gender Focal Points assisted the Japanese Presidency and Implementation Support Unit with the organisation and preparation of the Thematic Panel 'Strengthening synergies between the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention and the Women Peace and Security agenda through concrete action'. We are looking forward to these panel discussions taking place this afternoon.

Madam President,

During the rest of our mandate, we will continue to assist you in looking for opportunities to strengthen the gender and diversity dimensions of this Convention, as well as the intersection with the Women Peace Security Agenda, one of the priorities of your Presidency.

I thank you Madam President.