

**NPA Statement on Agenda Item 7c: Establishment of the Working Group on voluntary trust fund  
2025 Intersessional meetings of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention  
Geneva, 17-20 June 2025**

**Delivered by  
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Thank you, Madam President,

NPA welcomes the establishment of the Working Group on a voluntary trust fund and appreciates the Group's inclusive approach in gathering input and views from relevant stakeholders. We thank Norway for today's update on the work done so far by the working group.

Especially in light of the challenging funding landscape, we believe that it is crucial to explore and create new mechanisms and approaches for coordinating conventional funding. We look forward to continued engagement in support of the work on the feasibility study, as well as the potential establishment of a voluntary trust fund.

Creation of a voluntary trust fund for Article 5 implementation is one of the needed solutions to support affected states to implement their obligations and on their path towards completion. At present, most funding goes to a relatively small number of affected states, leaving many States Parties with light, medium, or legacy contamination with insufficient to no resources to address their contamination problem despite all their efforts to meet obligations. This week, we have heard several States Parties reporting insufficient resources as one of the aspects hindering their timely fulfilment of Article 5 obligations.

A voluntary trust fund would enable States Parties that cannot provide substantial amounts to pool smaller contributions into a larger fund. Such a mechanism could ensure that those affected States Parties that might be overlooked by the priorities of major donors, and that are struggling to secure funding to meet their clearance obligations, will receive the support they need. This could also encourage universalization among affected states outside the Convention.

We hope to see the feasibility study, in line with Action 44 of the Siem Reap–Angkor Action Plan, to result in the establishment of this fund, which would serve as a tangible tool for the fulfilment of Article 5 obligations.

I thank you.