



Eleventh Annual Pledging Conference

9 March 2026



Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
Convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production
and transfer of anti-personnel mines and on their destruction
www.apminebanconvention.org

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Implementation Support Unit

- Established in 2001 and housed within the GICHD (agreement with States Parties);
- Small Staff (3.6 full time equivalent)
- Independent support to the States Parties – responsive and responsible to them;
- Assist States Parties in making use of the Convention's processes and mechanisms;
- **Local contracts. Funded on a voluntary basis by the States Parties.**



Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention – Implementation Support Unit

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Implementation Support Unit

Mandate

- Prepare, support and carry out follow-up activities from formal and informal meetings
- Substantive and other support to the President, President-Designate, Committee members
- Advice and support to States Parties on all aspects of the implementation and universalization
- Provide advice and support to the Sponsorship Programme
- Facilitate communication among the States Parties, and promote communication towards States not Party and the Public
- Keep records of formal and informal meetings under the Convention, and communicate, as appropriate, the decision and priorities resulting from such meetings to States Parties and other stakeholders
- Liaise, and coordinate as appropriate, with relevant international organizations that participate in the work of the Convention



Pledging Conference

Fourteenth Meeting of the States Parties

- “Early in each year, as a rule, a conference of States Parties shall be held to collect pledges and contributions in order to obtain an overview of the funds that can be expected for the current year as well as for the foreseeable period.
- Considering that the ISU provides services of interest to the Convention as a whole, all States Parties should consider it a duty to make contributions.
- States Parties who are in a position to do so are in addition invited to make multi-annual pledges in accordance with the four-year work plan.”



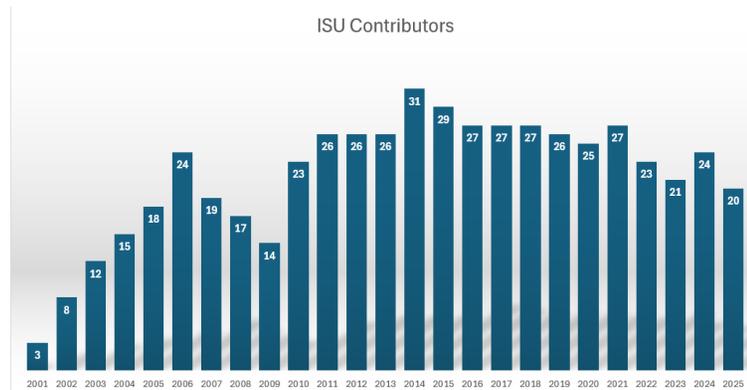
Preliminary figures for 2025

- Cost of the work plan – CHF 775 684
- Contributions received – CHF 651 473
- Anticipated expenditures – CHF 726 000



Maintain and Increase

ISU Contributors



2025 – Voluntary contributions



Implementation Support Unit work plan and budget

- The main objectives of the ISU 2025 – 2029 work plan and budget are to support States Parties in implementing their Convention obligations and their Siem Reap Angkor Action Plan commitments from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2029.
- The existence of a five-year work plans shall ascertain the financial needs of the ISU over time. This shall be understood by States Parties as an encouragement to plan contributions on a multi-annual basis

| FIVE-YEAR INDICATIVE BUDGET (CHF) | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| CORE SUPPORT | | | | | |
| | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 |
| Staff | 559 986 | 568 386 | 576 912 | 585 566 | 594 349 |
| Social Costs | 109 198 | 110 835 | 112 498 | 114 185 | 115 898 |
| Travel | 66 500 | 50 000 | 50 000 | 50 000 | 50 000 |
| Other Support | 40 000 | 40 000 | 40 000 | 40 000 | 40 000 |
| Total | 775 684 | 769 221 | 779 410 | 789 751 | 800 247 |

Implementation Support Unit

2026 work plan and budget

- Support the informal and formal meetings of the Convention
- Provide substantive support to the President and office holders
- Support to informal groups such as the UCG and the Sponsorship Programme Coordinator.
- Provide advice and support to States Parties in their implementation efforts and supporting their efforts to make use of the mechanism available to them
- Promote communication regarding the convention to States not party and the public.
- Keep records of informal and formal meetings (ensure a comprehensive website).
- Liaise with relevant organizations that participate in the work of the Convention



Implementation Support Unit

- In country support to States Parties
- Participation in different fora
- Strengthening partnership
- Translation services of key documents
- Interpretation for workshops and events

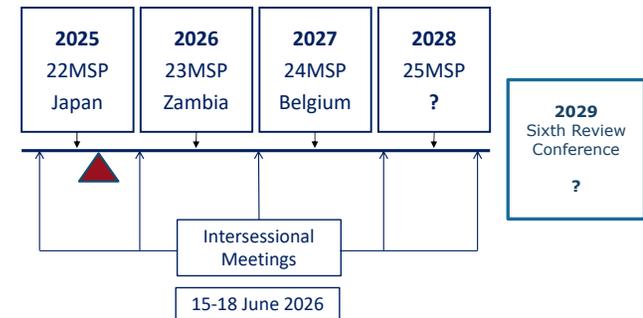


Assessed / voluntary

| 2026 | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--|-----------|
| Assessed Contributions | UN Support to formal meetings of the States Parties | Estimated costs - Twenty-Third Meeting of the States Parties | \$705 100 |
| Voluntary Contributions | Implementation Support Unit (3.6 full time equivalents members of the Secretariate) | Work Plan for 2026 (88% salaries, 12% support activities) | \$769 221 |



The Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention





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Statement by the Director of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Implementation Support Unit

Your Excellency. Let me start by saying what a pleasure it is for the ISU to support Zambia and to work closely with your Excellency and all States Parties and organizations on implementation.

Allow me to thank all of you for joining us today and for all of your kind expressions of support over the years to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention Implementation Support Unit.

I know that most of you are familiar with the ISU, but I thought for those that are not, a short introduction is in order:

- Established in 2001 and housed within the GICHD (agreement with States Parties);
- Small Staff (3.6 full time equivalent)
- Independent support to the States Parties – responsive and responsible to them;
- See the world through the eyes of individual States Parties;
- Assist States Parties in making use of the Convention's processes and mechanisms;
- **Local contracts. Funded on a voluntary basis by the States Parties.**

The States Parties have mandated the ISU to:

- Prepare, support and carry out follow-up activities from formal and informal meetings
- Substantive and other support to the President, President-Designate, Committee members
- Advice and support to States Parties on all aspects of the implementation and universalization

- Provide advice and support to the Sponsorship Programme
- Facilitate communication among the States Parties, and promote communication towards States not Party and the Public
- Keep records of formal and informal meetings under the Convention, and communicate, as appropriate, the decision and priorities resulting from such meetings to States Parties and other stakeholders
- Liaise, and coordinate as appropriate, with relevant international organizations that participate in the work of the Convention

In 2014 when the pledging conference was established, I was not Director of the ISU at the time, but I was at the ISU and remember clearly what a difficult period it was for all of us.

In light of this the States Parties decided:

- “Early in each year, as a rule, a conference of States Parties shall be held to collect pledges and contributions in order to obtain an overview of the funds that can be expected for the current year as well as for the foreseeable period.
- Considering that the ISU provides services of interest to the Convention as a whole, all States Parties should consider it a duty to make contributions.
- States Parties who are in a position to do so are in addition invited to make multi-annual pledges in accordance with the four-year work plan.”

Last year was a tricky year for the ISU, in this case, due to the threat that voluntary contribution would not be sufficient to cover the cost of the work plan. Given this threat we decided in July to put in place some cost cutting measures.

We are currently closing out accounts for 2025, and while the cost of the work plan for 2025 totalled CHF 775'684, unfortunately, we only received CHF 651 473,00 in contributions. This is despite the appeals from the President in 2025. I was grateful that we were able to secure a surge in contributions toward the end of the year.

However, with the cost cutting measures put in place, the final expenditures for 2025 totalled approximately 726'000, together with the carry-over from 2024, we will be able to cover the costs of the work plan without acquiring a deficit for 2025.

This means that the ISU will not have to make use of the financial security buffer which is in place.

In this regard, it's more important than ever that States Parties consider any additional efforts that can be put forward and in particular maintaining and increasing the number of States providing voluntary contributions.

SLIDE

As you can see in this graph, the ISU has received a high of 31 voluntary contributions. Given the importance of having a well-resourced ISU and given that we have 161 States Parties, it is important to maintain and, where possible, increase the level and number of voluntary contributions. It's important that we don't find ourselves in a situation where too much time is spent by the ISU in mobilizing resources.

SLIDE

I want to take thank the 26 States Parties that provided a contribution in 2025: Algeria, Australia, Austria, Cambodia, Canada, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye and the United Kingdom. We thank these States for their important contributions.

We also thank our host Switzerland, for its support to our work through, not only their contribution to the voluntary trust fund but also their contribution to cover other costs of the ISU (office space, financial and human resource support) in line with the hosting agreement signed between the States Parties and the GICHD.

My gratitude as well to the GICHD and its Director Ambassador Tobias Privitelli for the partnership and support in hosting the ISU. Very much appreciate our collaboration.

Turning to the ISU Work Plan and budget

At the Fifth Review Conference we adopted a five year work plan for the ISU. As I mentioned earlier the decision to draft a five year work plan was taken to, and I quote "ascertain the financial needs of the ISU over time. This shall be understood by States Parties as an encouragement to plan contributions on a multi-annual basis. »

NEXT SLIDE

The objective of the ISU 2025 – 2029 work plan and budget are to support States Parties in implementing their Convention obligations and their Siem Reap Angkor Action Plan commitments from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2029.

The Twenty- Second Meeting of the States Parties adopted the ISU's work plan for 2026 which is in line with the five-year work plan.

Given the situation we are facing and following conversation with the President, the decision was made to not go forward with the modest salary increase of ISU staff in 2026. Nevertheless social costs for the ISU have increase, so there will regardless be an increase in staff costs.

SLIDE

The workplan for the ISU is available so I will not go into detail on the contents. Our aim is to continue implementation of our mandate which includes:

- Support the informal and formal meetings of the Convention. These meetings are crucial for the successful implementation of the Convention.
- Provide substantive support to the President and office holders (collection of information, extension request process, bilateral meetings, engagements with States Parties). **ROBUST MANDATES AND A WORK PLAN WITH INDICATORS**
- Support to informal groups such as the UCG and the Sponsorship Programme Coordinator.
- Provide advice and support to States Parties in their implementation efforts and supporting their efforts to make use of the mechanism available to them (Reporting, Individualised approach, CAF, extension request process/follow up).
- Promote communication regarding the convention to States not party and the public. (demystifying the Convention, recalling and sharing the decisions made by States Parties.)
- Keep records of informal and formal meetings (ensure a comprehensive website).
- Liaise with relevant organizations that participate in the work of the Convention

We do our best with the human resources we have been provided with which total 3.6 full time equivalent staff positions. As you can appreciate there is a limit to what we can accomplish. We do our best.

States Parties have done well with the Convention, integrating robust mandates for the Committee, ensuring that all aspects are covered, and ensuring a detailed action plan with clear indicators. However, all of this requires a strong well resources secretariate to support the implementation of all of these decisions.

I should also add that the ISU is honoured to be in the process of implementing an EU Council Decision in support of States Parties.

This support has and will allow us to support States Parties in their implementation efforts in the lead up to the Sixth Review Conference in 2029 and is complementary to the work of the ISU, the President and the Committees. It also provides additional human resources required to implement the project which strengthens the work of the ISU and I thank my colleagues in this regard. It is also complementary to the work of the ISU.

One of my main messages to all of you is to strengthen the ISU and to ensure that our implementation efforts remain State Party led.

As the ISU operates solely on voluntary contributions, multi annual contributions as well as your pledges of support, offer us the certainty for us to carry out our work with confidence.”

Without financial support to fund our work plan we will be unable to carry out key support functions to States Parties.

Please recall that unlike some other Secretariates, our staff and activities are not covered by your assessed contribution to the UN but are funded solely through voluntary contributions.

As we head towards the Twenty-Third Meeting of the States Parties, it would be extremely helpful to have clarity on your intention to continue support to the ISU to give us certainty to pursue our work plan in 2026.

We are looking forward to supporting you Madam President and all the States Parties in their work and implementation efforts.

Our doors at the ISU are of course always open for any information you would like concerning the operation of the ISU and for any information that could facilitate a contribution from your State.

Thank you.