

APMBC Intersessionals 2015
SWITZERLAND

Statement on cooperative compliance (Check against delivery!)

Mr. President,

We would like to thank you and the other members of the committee on cooperative compliance for the report you have circulated in anticipation of our meeting.

The issue of compliance with the treaty's obligations is a key issue for the credibility of this instrument, and we cannot but be concerned by different allegations and confirmations of use of anti-personnel landmines by States Parties.

Moreover, let me stress that if we are concerned by the allegations of anti-personnel landmines by States parties, we are equally concerned about reported use of anti-personnel mines by States not party to the present convention and by non-state actors. We urge all parties to conflicts to refrain from using anti-personnel mines and call upon States not yet party to consider joining our convention at an early stage.

Mr. President

The establishment of the committee on cooperative compliance at the Maputo Review Conference represented an important and new development for the convention. We welcome the fact that the committee was able to promptly lay down its working procedures and is actively implementing its mandate.

The aim of establishing this committee was to facilitate compliance under the convention in a supportive and amicable manner. The report you have circulated underlines the value of this approach, and we are convinced that it will continue paying dividends.

The report provides greater clarity on a number of compliance cases. We welcome the fact that concerned States Parties have engaged with the committee on cooperative compliance and provided it with both information and feedback. [We also welcome that several of these States Parties have provided (or will provide) updates today.]

There certainly will be value for the committee to continue its dialogue with concerned States Parties in several of the cases referred to in its report, in order to address all outstanding questions. This would seem highly necessary in particular as corrective actions could not yet be implemented in one instance, and allegations not fully investigated in another.

I thank you Mr. President.