



**Intersessional Meetings of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention  
Geneva, 7-8 June 2018**

**INTERVENTION BY THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
ON COOPERATIVE COMPLIANCE ISSUES**

Thank you Madam President.

Croatia is convinced that the credibility of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) is largely due to how we, as the States Parties, collectively deal with the question of various issues of compliance with the core legal obligations of the Convention.

It is for this reason that we remain deeply disturbed by the latest *Landmine Monitor 2017* report on the (continuous) use of landmines by the government forces of Syria and Myanmar (both states not parties to the APMBC) as well as by the use of landmines by non-armed state actors (NASAs) in at least nine countries (including in States Parties like Afghanistan, Iraq, Nigeria, Ukraine, Yemen). Besides the use of anti-personnel landmines, which is a clear violation of the laws of war, the worrying issue is the indiscriminate use of anti-vehicle mines (especially in Yemen) and the failure to take adequate precautions to avoid civilian casualties.

Particularly concerning trend, however, is the reported use of victim-activated improvised explosive devices (IEDs) acting as antipersonnel mines, which fall under the definition of an anti-personnel landmine and as such are prohibited by the APMBC. The extensive, almost factory-level production of these types of landmines, continues to bear the hideous trademark of the D'aesh group mostly operating in Syria and Iraq.

In keeping with the international norm established by our Convention, Croatia strongly condemns use of landmines anywhere, anytime, by anyone, under any circumstances, primarily because of the humanitarian harm that landmines cause. All those responsible for these unlawful acts must be held accountable according to applicable national legislation.

Thank you.