

Statement of the Netherlands
under agenda item 7 d on
the preparations for the 17th MSP
Intersessionals meetings of the
Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention

Thank you, Madam President,

The Netherlands would like to touch upon the financial situation of the Ottawa Convention, as that is an important part of the preparations for the 17th Meeting of States Parties.

Although the financial situation has improved compared to previous years, the Netherlands believes it necessary to remain vigilant concerning the financial situation of the Convention. We do welcome the increased rate of payments in 2017. However, structural arrears by several States Parties remain an urgent matter of concern. Unless they are solved, we will be forced to take cost-saving measures again, possibly leading to the cancellation of one of the meeting days. We prefer to avoid this. In that regard, it is of utmost importance that all States fulfil their article 14 obligations.

Furthermore, we would like to recall paragraph 44 of the final document of the sixteenth MSP, in which the Meeting called upon the States to address issues arising from outstanding dues. It also requested the presidency to continue to consult with the view of strengthening financial predictability and sustainability and to report back to the Seventeenth Meeting of the States Parties. We thank you for your pursuing this issue in your capacity and we look forward to your report with a view to improve the financial health of this Convention. We would like to reiterate that in that regard, Madam President, you can count on the Netherlands' full support.

Thank you.