



**Meetings of the Standing Committees established by the States Parties to
the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (20 – 24 June 2011)**

**Closing remarks by Ambassador Stephan Husy, Director of the GICHD
Friday 24 June 2011**

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear colleagues

It has been a great pleasure and privilege to host the Meetings of the Standing Committees again this year in the OMM building which has become a kind of second home for many of us over the last decade.

I would like to thank the President of the 10MSP, Gazmend Turdiu, and the Co-Chairs and Co-Rapporteurs for their leadership, Kerry Brinkert and his ISU team for their passionate work in preparing, organising and guiding us through this week, the GICHD Support Director Martial Becker and his staff – in particular Susanne Rihs-Aebi and Estelle Aebersold - for the conference logistics and the management of the sponsorships, Lesley-MacInnes-Gillies for the production of the publications and all the participants who inspired the discussions during the Committee meetings and the side events for their dedication.

The intersessional work programme continues to be a crucial mechanism in the implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty. And the fact that more than 500 participants registered for the event is a strong indicator of the ongoing interest and commitment.

I wish you all a safe trip back, and for the ones who will attend the next week's intersessional meeting of the Convention on Cluster Munitions a sunny weekend in Geneva. The weather forecast is excellent.