

**MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON RESOURCES, COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE OF THE
CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND
TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION**

Geneva, 25 May 2012

Statement by the Delegation of Germany
under the agenda item "Trust funds to support implementation"

-- as delivered --

Mister Co-Chair,

Germany highly appreciates the forward-looking agenda which Albania and Thailand have prepared for this Standing Committee, and we particularly thank the ISU for the exhaustive research on existing funding mechanisms. As a committed donor country, we have read the discussion paper which explores options to ensure the continuity of resources with great interest.

Germany welcomes all efforts to strengthen the co-operation and coordination between affected and donor countries, including a discussion on possible new funding mechanisms. In our view, such efforts also include the identification and use, in a non-prejudicial manner, of practical synergies in the implementation of the Ottawa-Convention, the CCM, the CCW and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Mister Co-Chair,

Like we just heard from the ISU director, there is quite a number of examples of existing funding mechanisms which in our view all in all have served us well so far and are a useful supplement to bilateral forms of cooperation and assistance. We are also convinced that the recommendations resulting from the recent evaluation of "the scope, organisation, effectiveness and approach of the work of the United Nations in mine action" provide a good basis to strengthen existing frameworks. Once implemented, improvements suggested by the Joint Inspection Unit will allow to channel funds allocated for mine action and for victim assistance in particular in a more flexible, cost effective and demand-oriented manner.

Mister Co-Chair,

The need for enduring financial support will not diminish also if a new trust fund was to be established. The ISU's observation that "the value of time and money that would go into deliberations on any particular mechanism should be calibrated according to the expected results of such considerations" is pertinent. For a newly established trust fund to be meaningful, a firm commitment by all donors to pool efforts into such a new structure would be required, while the risk of duplications of efforts may remain. After careful consideration, we therefore come to the conclusion that the best way to ensure the continuity of resources is seeking to make good use of existing funding mechanisms.

I thank you.