

**ITALY:**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESOURCE, COOPERATION AND ASSISTENCE**

(May 25<sup>TH</sup> 2012)

Thank you Madame Co-Chair.

Just few comments on the two proposals that we are discussing today.

Regarding the trust fund, we align ourselves with the position already expressed by different delegations: we don't see significant specific added value in setting up a new instrument; we would prefer - and we are ready - to work on any possible improvement concerning the management of the trust funds which already exist.

We remain also cautious in relation to the idea of establishing a new information exchange tool. Until now, in our view, the gap in the exchanging of information is not sufficiently proved. Without further evidence of such a gap, Italy deems that the risk is high of creating duplication of tools and not using the resources available in an efficient way.

More in general, we believe that the critical issue today is how to raise additional resources for mine actions (and the other purposes of the convention), specifically through a larger involvement of the civil society and the private sector. We would encourage any proposal that aims at this goal.

Thank you.