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MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE CONVENTION ON THE  
PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF  
ANTI-PERSONAL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

STATEMENT BY H.E. D. BOLDBAATAR,  
AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MONGOLIA

Geneva, April 23, 2007

Madam President,  
Mr. Director,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, I would like to express our thanks to the Co-Chairs of the Standing Committee for inviting us to the Meetings.

I should like to take this opportunity to provide a brief update on the steps that the Government of Mongolia has been taking towards its accession to the Convention.

I am pleased to inform that Mongolia welcomes the effort of the international community as well as the progress and achievements made towards the realization of the provisions of the Convention.

Mongolia denounces the use, production, stockpiling and transfer of anti-personnel mines and supports the efforts being undertaken by the international community to ban this dangerous weapon. Mongolia does not possess facilities for manufacturing landmines. Moreover, it has never deployed this weaponry.

Mongolia has consistently voiced its support for the purposes and principles of the Ottawa Convention. Yet, a range of security and economic concerns have prompted us to take a step-by-step approach towards the issue of acceding to this landmark treaty. Mongolian Government's Program of Action for 2004-2008 sets out a clear-cut objective to "accede to the Ottawa Convention on a step-by-step basis and reveal the information on the number and types of landmines".

At the current stage our focus is on submitting a national report under Article 7 of the Convention in accordance with the UN GA Resolutions on "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Antipersonnel Mines and on Their Destruction". In order to pave the way for issuing a report, the Ministry of Defense initiated amendment to the relevant Law to declassify the information regarding the antipersonnel mines. The relevant amendment was passed by the Parliament on 29 December 2006. We are now in the progress of preparing our voluntary report under Article 7 of the Convention.

In conclusion, I would like to reassure that Mongolia is supporting the universalization of the Mine Ban Treaty.

Thank you for your kind attention.