**STANDING COMMITTEE ON GENERAL STATUS AND OPERATIONS OF
THE CONVETION
RESOURCE MOBILIZATION
CANADA STATEMENT**

MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2007

Thank you Co-Chair

On behalf of the Canadian Delegation I extend our warm thanks to Norway for continuing its able chairmanship of the Resource Mobilization Contact Group. We support fully the two track process of examining ways we can be more efficient and effective with the resources we have available, while at the same time, further developing strategies to mainstream and where possible increase resources for mine action - both by mine affected states and the international donor community.

This is mutually complementary to work being in the Linking Mine Action and Development Contact Group which meets in Salle D this Friday at 13:00.

Finally with respect to Canada's own performance, as expected and required, the Canadian Landmine Fund – the dedicated thematic fund jointly administered by Foreign Affairs, the Canadian International Development Agency and the Department of National Defence – has virtually phased out. For the past several years in anticipation of this eventuality, Foreign Affairs and CIDA have been actively integrating mine action into regular programmes. CIDA, in particular, has been quite successful in engaging various bilateral development programmes in mine action. Foreign Affairs is integrating mine action into work funded under the Global Peace and Security Fund.

Without the security of guaranteed floor we are – in effect – flying without a net. During this transition period we had hoped to maintain our traditional levels of support, which in recent years has been approximately CDN $30 million ($28 million last year). I am pleased to report that in the last fiscal year which ended on March 31st, Canada was able to disburse CDN $34 million – a 22% increase over last year and the highest figured in recent years.

We will continue to do our best to maintain this upward trend and to keep this community apprised of the mainstreaming efforts.

Thank you