



Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer
of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
MINE CLEARANCE, MINE RISK EDUCATION AND MINE ACTION TECHNOLOGIES**

CO-CHAIRS' NOTES TO MEETING PARTICIPANTS

5 February 2003

The agenda for the February meeting builds upon the efforts undertaken by the Standing Committee in 2002. In particular, a focus will again be placed on the status of the implementation of the elements of the Convention relevant to this Standing Committee. In this regard, in January 2002 the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) highlighted a palpable lack of available data. Since then, a special effort has been made to obtain a more comprehensive assessment of implementation. A presentation on the status of this effort will help focus our attention on matters of greatest urgency.

With respect to better understanding the situation and needs in mine affected countries, the Co-Chairs have scheduled an opportunity for States Parties to make interventions (suggested length: 5 minutes) on plans and progress at 10:45 on Wednesday, February 5. In addition, at 12:30 and again at 16:15 there will be an opportunity for States Parties and others to provide updates on cooperation and assistance (suggested length: 5 minutes). To assist the Co-Chairs in preparing speakers lists for these two agenda items, States Parties wishing to intervene should contact the Implementation Support Unit (email: k.brinkert@gichd.ch; fax: 41-22-906-1690; tel: 41-22-906-1637).

At the January 2002 meeting of the Standing Committee, many participants found useful the country case study of mine action in Afghanistan. In May, another in-depth country case study, with the focus on Mozambique was organized. This time, we have planned a detailed case study of Cambodia's experience in mine action. Our hope is that this presentation will permit to extract relevant lessons for other countries.

Regarding other matters on the agenda, reports will be provided updating participants on various means to assist mine action efforts. In particular, updates will be provided on progress made and ongoing work in mine action technologies.