

**UNMAS Reflections on Funding Sustainability**  
**4 February 2003**

Madam Co-Chair,

I would like to very briefly update you on two initiatives, in which we are involved, to support the mobilisation of resources for victim assistance.

The first initiative relates to the Portfolio of victim assistance projects developed every year by the VA working group of the ICBL. In an effort to promote this portfolio, we have already entered all the projects it includes into the projects database of E-Mine where they can be easily accessed, either through the VA section of E-Mine, or through its various country pages.

This year, the ICBL VA working group has asked us to provide additional support and to take responsibility for the development of the portfolio itself. We have agreed to do so and will initiate consultations shortly to discuss how best to do it. Our sense is that the projects should be submitted through the country focal points to ensure that they are properly coordinated and form part of coherent national plans and strategies. We would very much welcome everybody's views on this.

The second initiative is an effort to access new sources of funding. We are very pleased to announce that, following consultations with the Government of Japan, it has been agreed that the Trust Fund for Human Security, which is a trust fund managed by the United Nations to allocate resources provided by Japan, could be used to finance victim assistance projects. We are now in the process of finalising two projects in South-East Asia implemented with NGO partners that would be financed through this trust fund.

Thank you.