



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**

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**Co-Chairs' suggestions on ways to prepare for the 11 February Standing Committee meeting\***

**Introduction**

The Standing Committee in 2002-2003 placed a necessary emphasis on problems, plans, progress and priorities for assistance of the 40+ mine-affected States Parties which have an important obligation to fulfill in implementing Article 5. However, during the final Intersessional Work Programme prior to the Review Conference, it will be crucial that all relevant States Parties communicate their "4Ps" and best make use of the Standing Committee as means to highlight both progress and ongoing challenges. For their part, States parties in a position to do so and other relevant actors should act with urgency to assist the mine-affected States parties in overcoming their challenges.

**Updates from relevant States Parties on the status of implementation**

The Fifth Meeting of the States Parties (5MSP) called upon States Parties requiring assistance for mine clearance (...): to ensure that prior to the First Review Conference plans are in place consistent with the Convention's deadlines, to take concrete steps to implement these plans, and to use the opportunity presented by the Intersessional Work Programme to present their problems, plans, progress and priorities for assistance. In this regard, the Co-Chairs view the most of important use of the Standing Committee as being to provide opportunities to these States Parties to share updates.

*Suggestions on ways to prepare:*

- *Mine-affected States Parties may wish to make use of the suggested framework attached herewith that has been developed to prepare presentations on their problems, plans, progress and priorities for assistance.*

**Updates regarding assistance and cooperation**

The 5MSP called for the integration of mine action into all relevant humanitarian and development activities. In addition, the 5MSP called upon States Parties in a position to do so to renew their commitment to ensure sustainability of resources necessary to implement the Convention and all States Parties and relevant organizations to share information on matters pertaining to resource mobilization in advance of the First Review Conference. The Co-Chairs encourage relevant actors to use the Standing Committee to share such information.

*Suggestions on ways to prepare:*

- *States Parties and organizations may wish to share information on their commitments to ensuring that resources are provided to support those States that need assistance.*

**Update by the United Nations on its revised mine action strategy and on its activities**

In November 2003, the United Nations General Assembly was presented with and discussed a revised United Nations Mine Action Strategy, 2001-2005. The Co-Chairs have asked that the United Nations provide an update on the revised strategy as well as on its mine action efforts.

*Suggestions on ways to prepare:*

- *Interested actors may wish to review the revised UN Mine Action Strategy. (Contact glaurie@unog.ch or isu@gichd.ch to obtain a copy of this document.)*

## **Survey of progress made and ongoing work in mine action technologies**

In 2002-2003, the Co-Chairs convened a group of experts on mine action technologies in order that they could bring to the Standing Committee a concise update on the state of global research, development and application of relevant technologies. The outcome of these experts' discussions was appended to the Co-Chairs' final report. In 2003-2004, the Co-Chairs again would like to keep the Standing Committee apprised of developments in this area and to seek views with respect to the matter of mine action technologies.

*Suggestions on ways to prepare:*

- *Interested actors may wish to review the conclusions drawn in 2002-2003 by the experts assembled by the Co-Chairs. (See pages 36-40 of the English version of the Final Report of the Fifth Meeting of the States Parties or contact [isu@gichd.ch](mailto:isu@gichd.ch) to obtain a copy of these conclusions.)*

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\* This document merely contains suggestions regarding ways to maximize opportunities for participation presented by the Standing Committee. It is well understood that all Standing Committee participants – States Parties, States not parties and organizations – are free to intervene on any agenda item in any manner they wish.